



ALLEGEDLY TRUE TALES OF
PARANORMAL PHENOMENA!

THE BIG BOOK OF THE UNEXPLAINED



BY
DOUG MOENCH
and OVER 40 OF THE WORLD'S
TOP COMICS ARTISTS!



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An Introduction

GREETINGS TO TUNNEL-VISIONED SKEPTICS AND GULLIBLE BELIEVERS ALIKE. SAD TO SAY NEITHER APPROACH TO THE WORLD IS THE RIGHT ONE.



MY NAME IS CHARLES FORT. BETWEEN MY BIRTH IN 1874 AND MY DEATH IN 1932, I CATALOGUED A "PROCESSION OF THE DAMNED," MEANING UNSTUDIED ODDITIES AND "IMPOSSIBLE" OCCURRENCES--



--PHENOMENA WHICH SCIENCE "EXPLAINS AWAY" BY IGNORING, SUPPRESSING, OR DISCREDITING INCONVENIENT DATA AND EVIDENCE.



AS H. L. MENCKEN NOTED: "FOR EVERY COMPLEX PROBLEM THERE IS A SOLUTION WHICH IS SIMPLE, NEAT, AND WRONG"—REMINDING US THAT UNEXPLAINED MYSTERIES ARE NEVER SIMPLE JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE EXPLAINS THEM AWAY WITH AN UNCOMPLICATED ANSWER.

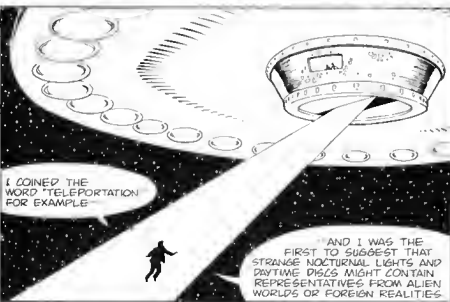


SIR JOHN HERSCHEL PUT IT THIS WAY: "WE OUGHT TO DISMISS ANY PRECONCEIVED NOTION OF WHAT *OUGHT TO BE*, AND CONTENT OURSELVES WITH OBSERVING, AS A PLAIN MATTER OF FACT, WHAT IS."



INDEED—NO MATTER WHAT IT IS WE SEE.

"THE KNOWN IS FINITE. THE UNKNOWN INFINITE," WROTE THOMAS HUXLEY. I AGREE. IN THE COURSE OF MY OWN OBSERVATION AND COMMENTARY, I FOUND ALL **MANNER** OF DAMNED WEIRDNESS



I COINED THE WORD "TELEPORTATION" FOR EXAMPLE

AND I WAS THE FIRST TO SUGGEST THAT STRANGE NOCTURNAL LIGHTS AND DAYTIME DISCS MIGHT CONTAIN REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALIEN WORLDS OR FOREIGN REALITIES

I EVEN ADVANCED THE UNPOPULAR NOTION THAT OUR WORLD MIGHT BE NOTHING MORE THAN A PLANET-SIZED **PANTRY**--



--STOCKED WITH **US**.

WAS I KIDDING?
YOU BET, BUT I WAS
NEVER MORE SERIOUS
EITHER—AND NOW
I'M BACK.

MY "PROCESSION
OF THE DAMNED,"
YOU SEE, HARDLY
HALTED WHEN
I DIED.

IF ANYTHING,
THE ASSEMBLAGE
HAS RECENTLY BECOME
AN UNRULY MOB—
MAKING IT HIGH
TIME FOR THIS
UPDATE.

OUR ODYSSEY THROUGH THE A-TO-Z FILES
OF HIGH STRANGENESS WILL BE SOME-
TIMES WONDEROUS, SOMETIMES CHILLING,
OFTEN ABSURD AND ALMOST
ALWAYS INEXPLICABLE—BUT
NEVER BORING.

HOARY INDEED ARE SOME OF THE
CHESTNUTS FALLING AHEAD, BUT
THERE IS ALSO MUCH WHICH IS
NEW, AS WELL AS FRESH SLANTS
ON ANCIENT ODDITIES.

CALL IT A
FAMILIAR
JOURNEY INTO
NEW REALMS OF
THE ETERNALLY
ENIGMATIC.

HI-YO,
NESSIE—
AWAY!

ONE MAJOR DIFFERENCE THESE
DAYS, FOR BETTER OR WORSE,
IS THAT BLIND SKEPTICISM HAS
BEEN INCREASINGLY REPLACED
BY BLIND BELIEF.

AND SINCE OUR EPISODIC
TOUR IS BEST UNDERTAKEN
WITH A CERTAIN BALANCE,
LET A SINGLE CAUTION
BE YOUR GUIDE:

VENTURE
NO FARTHER
WITH YOUR MIND
CLOSED BUT NEITHER
OPEN IT SO FAR THAT
YOUR BRAINS SPILL OUT.

AND NOW, SINCE ONE
MEASURES A CIRCLE
BEGINNING ANYWHERE,
FEEL FREE TO DIP
INTO THIS COMPENDIUM
AT WILL, WHERE
AND AS YOU
PLEASE.

FOR THOSE
OF A MORE
METHODICAL
BENT OUR LONG
STRANGE TRIP
BEGINS ON THE
NEXT PAGE...

CHAPTER ONE

HIGH STRANGENESS

We begin with the simply yet profoundly weird: crop circles and synchronicities, ley lines and mysterious megaliths, crystal power and locomotive stones, anomalous rainfalls and the Super-Sargasso Sea, Out-of-Place Artifacts and ancient civilizations, astrology and teleportation. These are the phenomena for which our "normal" paradigms find no room. These things empirically *cannot be*, and yet — apparently — they *are*. Contemplating such enigmas, science shivers, then scoffs. In no particular order, we do both or neither — and *then* some. And by the end of this chapter, we also harbor our first suspicions that all of this strangeness is either sheer bunk... or somehow *linked*.

AS THE PRINCIPLES OF ZEN INFORM US, NOT ALL MESSAGES ARE MEANT TO BE UNDERSTOOD—SOMETIMES IT IS BETTER TO SIMPLY PONDER AND APPRECIATE PURE FORM AND ELUSIVE MYSTERY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE MAY WELL BE A CERTAIN CIRCULAR LOGIC, AND EVEN WISDOM, EMBODIED IN THOSE

AGGRAVATING AGRIGLYPHS

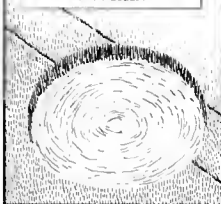


THE ANATOMY OF A SIMPLE CIRCLE IS CHARACTERIZED BY A CLOCKWISE OR COUNTER-CLOCKWISE SWIRL, OR SPIRAL OF FLATTENED BUT NOT CRUSHED STALKS, OFTEN INTERLOCKEDLY WOVEN OR EVEN "BRAIDED"

THE STEMS OF AFFECTED PLANTS ARE TYPICALLY BENT (BUT NOT BROKEN) CLOSE TO THE GROUND, AS IF MADE MOMENTARILY WALLEABLE AND THEN SOMEHOW REHARDENED



FULLY APPRECIATED ONLY FROM ABOVE AND FIRST NOTICED IN LATE-70S ENGLAND, CROP CIRCLES ARE MYSTERIOUS DEPRESSIONS OCCURRING OVERNIGHT, PERHAPS IN MERE SECONDS, PRIMARILY IN FIELDS OF WHEAT, RYE, BARLEY, AND RAPESEED.

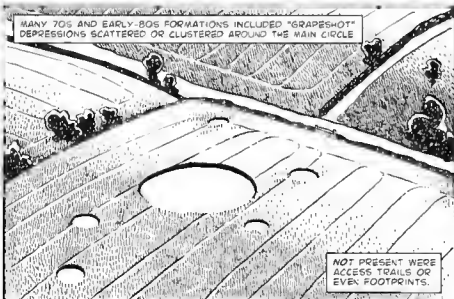


SINCE THESE FLATTENED CEREAL PLANTS CONTINUE TO GROW AND ARE ROUTINELY HARVESTED (REAPING NOT AT ALL WHAT WAS SOWN), CROP CIRCLES ARE LITERALLY CONSUMED BY HUMAN BEINGS.

YUM--
BREAD FOR
THE HEAD?



MANY 70S AND EARLY-80S FORMATIONS INCLUDED "GRAPESHOT" DEPRESSIONS SCATTERED OR CLUSTERED AROUND THE MAIN CIRCLE



NOT PRESENT WERE ACCESS TRAILS OR EVEN FOOTPRINTS.

ALTHOUGH WIDELY NOTED AND PUBLICIZED ONLY IN RECENT YEARS, RECORDED CIRCLES ARE APPARENTLY NOTHING NEW



AS WITNESSED IN THIS 1678 ILLUSTRATION OF "THE MOWING DEVIL."

August 22th., 1678.

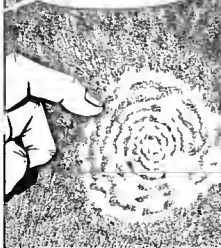
PAGAN AND CELTIC MYTH (OR HISTORY) IS RICH WITH TALES OF "FAIRY RINGS" AND "ROUND DANCES" ATTRIBUTED TO UNEARTHLY "WEE FOLK."



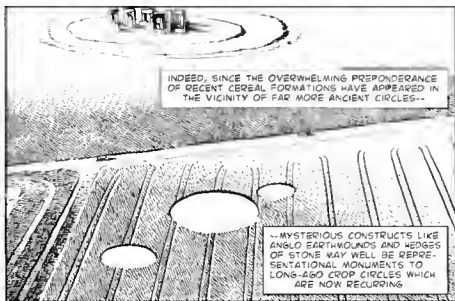
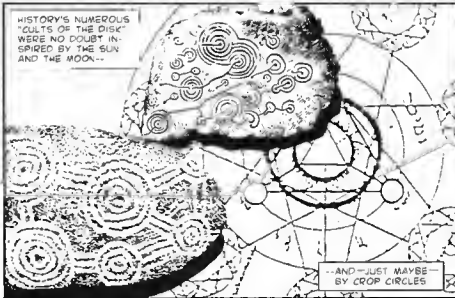
VIRTUALLY EVERY CULTURE ON EARTH OBSERVED SOME FORM OF CIRCULAR WORSHIP, AS DOCUMENTED IN PETROGLYPHS, CAVE PAINTINGS, AND OTHER ANCIENT GRAFFITI!



WHILE IN NORTH AMERICA, LAND OF MEDICINE WHEELS, WE FIND THIS SPIRAL INCISED IN ROCK BY PRECURSORS OF THE HOPI INDIANS.



HISTORY'S NUMEROUS "CULTS OF THE DISK" WERE NO DOUBT INSPIRED BY THE SUN AND THE MOON--

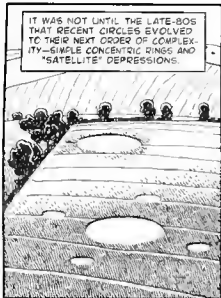


--MYSTERIOUS CONSTRUCTS LIKE ANGLO EARTHWORKS AND WEDGES OF STONE MAY WELL BE REPRESENTATIONAL MONUMENTS TO LONG-AGO CROP CIRCLES WHICH ARE NOW RECURRING

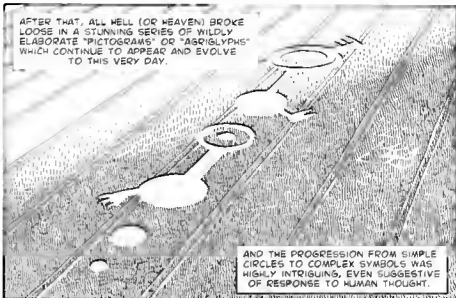
IN A REVERSAL (OR REPETITION) OF THIS POSSIBILITY, CROP FORMATION OF JULY 11, 1992 PRECISELY MIMICKED THE ORIGINAL STATE OF AVEBURY HENGE



IT WAS NOT UNTIL THE LATE-80S THAT RECENT CIRCLES EVOLVED TO THEIR NEXT ORDER OF COMPLEXITY—SIMPLE CONCENTRIC RINGS AND "SATELLITE" DEPRESSIONS.



AFTER THAT, ALL HELL (OR HEAVEN) BROKE LOOSE IN A STUNNING SERIES OF WILDLY ELABORATE "PICTOGRAMS" OR "ASRIGLYPHS" WHICH CONTINUE TO APPEAR AND EVOLVE TO THIS VERY DAY.



AND THE PROGRESSION FROM SIMPLE CIRCLES TO COMPLEX SYMBOLS WAS HIGHLY INTRIGUING, EVEN SUGGESTIVE OF RESPONSE TO HUMAN THOUGHT.

WHEN THE FIRST MODEST DEPRESSIONS WERE BLAMED ON "RUTTING HEDGEHOGS," FOR EXAMPLE, THE CIRCLES PROMPTLY GREW TO MAMMOTH PROPORTIONS.



THIS'D TAKE A LOT OF HORNY HEDGEHOGS!

THE SUBSEQUENT "HELICOPTER PROP-WASH" THEORY CRASHED AND BURNED IN THE WAKE OF SUDDEN SATELLITE AND RING FORMATIONS.



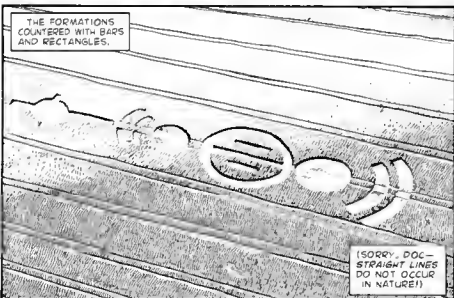
THIS SOLUTION WILL NEVER FLY!

AND AS SOON AS DR. TERENCE MEADEN ADVANCED HIS METEOROLOGICAL "PLASMA THEORY"



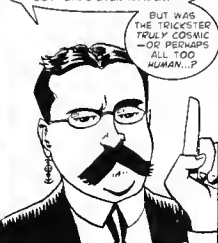
WIND VORTICES SWEEPING OVER WILL SIBS!

THE FORMATIONS COUNTERED WITH BARS AND RECTANGLES.



(SORRY, DOC—STRAIGHT LINES DO NOT OCCUR IN NATURE!)

IT WAS AS IF THE COSMIC TRICKSTER DELIGHTED IN MOCKING THE THEORISTS, PERVERSELY DEMOLISHING EACH SUCCESSIVE SOLUTION AND FORCING US TO SCRATCH OUR HEADS EVER HARDER.

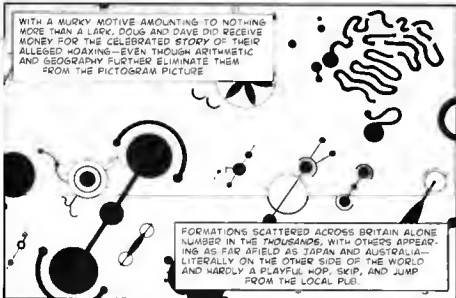


BUT WAS THE TRICKSTER TRULY COSMIC—OR PERHAPS ALL TOO HUMAN...?

WORLDWIDE HEADLINES IN 1991 TRANSFORMED THE "WOAX THEORY" INTO THE FINAL SOLUTION WHEN TWO CHAPS NAMED DOUGLAS BOWER AND DAVID CHORLEY "CONFESSED":



WITH A MURKY MOTIVE AMOUNTING TO NOTHING MORE THAN A LARK, DOUG AND DAVE DID RECEIVE MONEY FOR THE CELEBRATED STORY OF THEIR ALLEGED HOAXING--EVEN THOUGH ARITHMETIC AND GEOGRAPHY FURTHER ELIMINATE THEM FROM THE PICTOGRAM PICTURE



FORMATIONS SCATTERED ACROSS BRITAIN ALONE NUMBER IN THE THOUSANDS, WITH OTHERS APPEARING AS FAR AFIELD AS JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA--LITERALLY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD AND HARDLY A PLAYFUL WOP, SKIP, AND JUMP FROM THE LOCAL PUB.

WITH DOUG AND DAVE NOW RETIRED, THE CIRCLES CONTINUE TO APPEAR--WHILE ONE RESEARCHER MAINTAINS THEY RECEIVED PAYMENT FROM AN ALLEGED FRONT FOR BRITISH INTELLIGENCE



OTHER HOAXERS INCLUDE JIM SCHNABEL (WHO BLAMED SATANISTS FOR THOSE CIRCLES HE DID NOT CREATE) AND THE BRITISH ARMY (FOR REASONS OR RESEARCH STILL UNEXPLAINED)

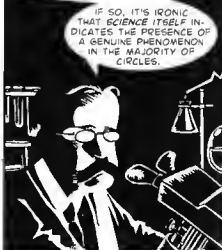


--BUT EVEN IN PROVEN WOAXES, THERE MAY BE SOME THING WEIRD AT WORK

SEVERAL PROFFESSED CIRCLE MAKERS (INCLUDING DOUG BOWER) HAVE ADMITTED TO BEING "INSPIRED" BY UNKNOWN FORCES..



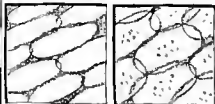
'IS THERE A TRICKSTER BEHIND THE TRICKSTERS--ANOTHER COSMIC GIGGLE UNDERLYING THE HEADLINES?



PHOTOMICROGRAPHS OF "NORMAL" AND "CIRCLED" PLANTS REVEAL CHANGES ON A CELLULAR LEVEL.

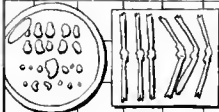
'Normal'

'Circled'



RADIOACTIVE ANOMALIES HAVE ALSO BEEN OBSERVED IN AFFECTED PLANTS--

--AS WELL AS EVIDENCE OF RAPID INTERNAL HEATING, NOT TO MENTION ALTERED SEEDS AND STEM NODES, ALL CAUSED BY NO KNOWN DISEASE.



RESEARCHER COLIN ANDREWS REPORTS "TRILLING" AND "THE RUSTLING OF STATIC ELECTRICITY" IN AND NEAR CIRCLES--INDICATIVE OF A MYSTEROUS ENERGY DETECTED BY VARIOUS OTHER MEANS.



THIS BRINGS US TO THOSE INFERNAL FLYING SAUCERS --LONG ASSOCIATED WITH OTHER ELECTROMAGNETIC EFFECTS (SUCH AS STALLED CAR ENGINES), AS WELL AS EARLY "SAUCER NESTS" RESEMBLING BUT REPORTED LONG BEFORE MODERN CROP CIRCLES



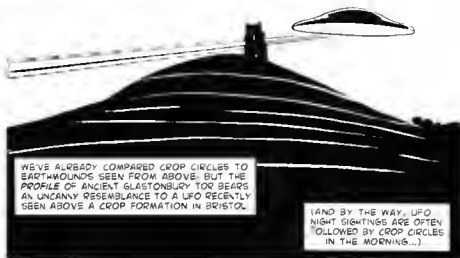
ALSO LINKED TO UFOS ARE ICE RINGS, AQUA-SOLID ANALOGS OF CROP CIRCLES WHICH LOOK LIKE THE FLASH-FROZEN RIPPLES OF A STONE TOSSED INTO WATER--BUT WHICH PROBABLY ARE CONCENTRIC MELTINGS.



AND THESE STRANGE RINGS APPEARED IN 1991 ON A ROCK PLATEAU IN PUERTO RICO, UFO HOT-SPOT AT THE TIME.



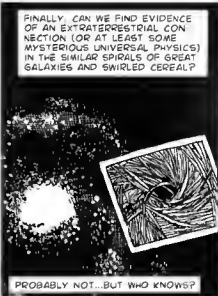
WE'VE ALREADY COMPARED CROP CIRCLES TO EARTHMOUNDS SEEN FROM ABOVE. BUT THE PROFILE OF ANCIENT GLASTONBURY TOR BEARS AN UNCANNY RESEMBLANCE TO A UFO RECENTLY SEEN ABOVE A CROP FORMATION IN BRISTOL.





SMALL LUMINOUS WHITE SPHERES HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY OBSERVED (AND VIDEO-TAPED AT LEAST TWICE) ZIPPING AND DIPPING ABOVE AND WITHIN RECENT FORMATIONS.

MINI-PROBES DISPATCHED TO OBSERVE UFO HANDIWORK? RESIDUAL ENERGY FROM WHATEVER "NATURAL FORCE" CREATED THE FORMATIONS? OR JUST A FEW CURVE BALLS PITCHED BY THE COSMIC TRICKSTER?



PROBABLY NOT...BUT WHO KNOWS?



AND ALL "PHYSICAL TRACE" EVIDENCE ASIDE, ARE ALIENS TRULY THE LORDS OF THE RINGS AND CIRCLES?

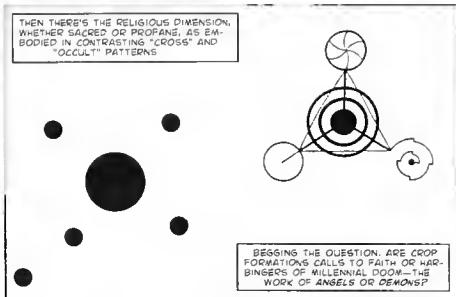
NOT NECESSARILY—IF PROPONENTS OF THE MICROWAVE THEORY ARE CORRECT—

—BECAUSE MICROWAVES WERE A PRIME COMPONENT OF PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ALL-TOO-HUMAN "STAR WARS" PROGRAM



HAH! WAIT! THEY SEE THIS MASTERPIECE IN THE MORNING

(IF NOT THE DELIBERATE DOODLES OF ORBITING PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE, MIGHT THE CIRCLE DESIGNS BE SIDE EFFECTS OF MICROWAVE IRRADIATION TESTING—UNFORESEEN EVEN BY THE TESTERS THEMSELVES?)



THEN THERE'S THE RELIGIOUS DIMENSION, WHETHER SACRED OR PROFANE, AS EMBODIED IN CONTRASTING "CROSS" AND "OCULT" PATTERNS

BEGGING THE QUESTION. ARE CROP FORMATIONS CALLS TO FAITH OR HAR-BINGERS OF MILLENNIAL DOOM—THE WORK OF ANGELS OR DEMONS?



CLOSER TO DEMONS, GIVEN RESEARCHERS MICHAEL J. STRAIN AND LINDA MOULTON HOWE'S CONNECTION BETWEEN CIRCLES AND ANIMAL MUTILATIONS.

INCLUDING A DE-CAPITATED DOG NEAR ONE CIRCLE...

LET'S HOPE THESE CIRCLES ARE HOAYES

BUT IF SOME AGRIGLYPHS TRULY COMPRISE AN EXTERNAL PHENOMENON, IS IT COSMIC GRAFT? OR COMPELLING COMMUNICATION?

Crop Circle
"Inteligent"

Antacid
Rock Art



REPEATED MIMICKRY OF ANCIENT SYMBOLS MAY WELL ARGUE FOR THE LATTER

INDEED, MANY CIRCLES LOOK LIKE NOTHING LESS THAN MYSTIFYING MANDALAS FOR MEDITATION ON HIGHER PLANES OF REALITY.



SHORTLY AFTER ONE CEREALOGIST STAMPED THE MESSAGE *"SPEAK TO US"* IN A FIELD OF GRAIN, THIS FORMATION (DUBBED "THE INSCRIPTION") APPEARED NEAR MILK HILL.

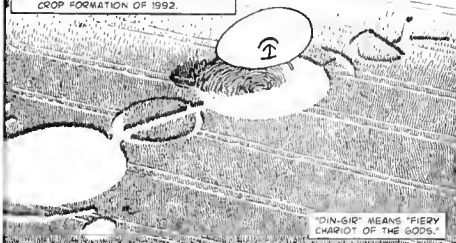
ARCHEOLOGIST MICHAEL GREEN OFFERED AN HEBRIAC TRANSLATION: "THE CREATOR, WISE AND KIND."

THE MOST STUNNING FORMATION OF ALL, HOWEVER, WAS THIS "MANDELBROT SET" NEAR CAMBRIDGE —A HIGHLY COMPLEX MATHEMATICAL CONSTRUCT RELATED TO FRACTALS AND CHAOS THEORY.



MATHEMATICS, OF COURSE, IS THE "UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE."

THE ANCIENT SUMERIAN "DIN-GIR" SYMBOL REPORTED ON THE SIDE OF A NEW MEXICO UFO BY PATROLMAN LONNIE ZAMORA IN 1964 ALSO APPEARED IN AN EAST MEON CROP FORMATION OF 1992.



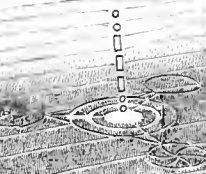
"DIN-GIR" MEANS "FIERY CHARIOT OF THE GODS."

FINALLY, THE "GAIA HYPOTHESIS" SEES THE CIRCLES AS AN INTERNAL PHENOMENON—MESSAGES FROM SENTIENT EARTH HERSELF



ACCORDING TO COLIN ANDREWS AND OTHERS, THE PLANET IS SICK, PERHAPS DYING, AND HUMANS ARE THE DISEASE

IF THIS IS TRUE, THEN THE CIRCLES MAY BE SYMPTOMS OF THE DISEASE—BIZARRE "STIGMATA" OR BEAUTIFUL SORES AFFLICTING THE PLANET'S FRAGILE SKIN.



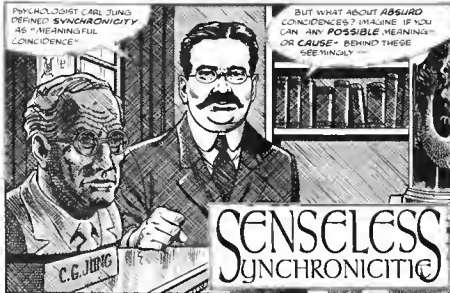
EITHER THAT, OR PAINFULLY POIGNANT CRIES FOR RELIEF.

ONLY ONE THING IS CERTAIN: IF THE CIRCLES ARE SOME FORM OF COMMUNICATION—WHETHER AN INVITATION TO THE WILDEST PARTY IMAGINABLE OR ANGRY RANTS AGAINST POLLUTERS AND VEGETARIANS—



THIS FAR WE'VE BEEN UNABLE TO HARVEST THE MESSAGE

PSYCHOLOGIST CARL JUNG
DEFINED SYNCHRONICITY
AS "MEANINGFUL
COINCIDENCE"



SENSELESS SYNCHRONICITY

BUT WHAT ABOUT **ABSD**
COINCIDENCES? IMAGINE IF YOU
CAN ANY **POSSIBLE** MEANING—
OR **CAUSE**—BEHIND THESE
SEEMINGLY

IN EDGAR ALLAN POE'S 1838 STORY
"THE NARRATIVE OF ARTHUR GORDON
PYM OF NANTUCKET," THREE STARR-
ING SHIPWRECK SURVIVORS MURDER
AND CONSUME THEIR COMPANION
NAMED RICHARD PARKER



IN 1834, THREE REAL-LIFE SHIP-
WRECKED SAILORS WERE TRIED
FOR THE MURDER OF THE FOURTH
SAILOR

HIS NAME WAS ALSO RICHARD
PARKER, AND HE WAS ALSO
EATEN.



AT LONDON'S SAVOY HOTEL IN 1953,
NEWSPAPER COLUMNIST IRV KUPCINET
WAS STARTLED TO FIND ITEMS
BELONGING TO AN OLD FRIEND OF HIS,
IMPRESARIO HARRY HANNIN.

WELL, I'LL
BE."



TWO DAYS LATER KUPCINET RECEIVED
A LETTER FROM THE SAME HARRY
HANNIN, STAYING AT THE HOTEL
MEURICE IN PARIS: "YOU'LL NEVER
BELIEVE THIS, BUT
I'VE JUST OWNED
A DRAWER HERE
AND FOUND A TIE
WITH YOUR NAME
ON IT."

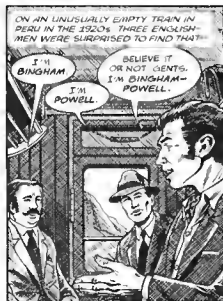


ON AN UNUSUALLY EMPTY TRAIN IN
PERU IN THE 1920s, THREE ENGLISH-
MEN WERE SURPRISED TO FIND THAT

I'M
BINGHAM

I'M
POWELL

BELIEVE IT
OR NOT GENTS,
I'M BINGHAM-
POWELL.



IN THE MONTH LEADING UP TO THE
ALLIED INVASION OF EUROPE ON
JUNE 6, 1944, SOLUTIONS TO CLUES
IN LONDON'S DAILY TELEGRAPH
CROSSWORD PUZZLES INCLUDED:
NEPTUNE, OMAHA, UTM,
MULBERRY, AND OVERLOAD--



—ALL TOP-SECRET D-DAY CODE-
WORDS—ALL PUBLISHED BY PURE
COINCIDENCE.

JOHN STOTT'S 1985 CAR CRASH WAS
WITNESSED BY BERNARD STOTT,
INVESTIGATED BY POLICE OFFICER TINA
STOTT, AND ADMINISTERED BY DESK
SERGEANT WALTER STOTT.

GREAT STOTT!



THE FOUR WERE NOT
RELATED

JILTED BY HER LOVER, HENRY ZIEGLAND
A TEXAS WOMAN KILLED HERSELF IN
1883.



SEEKING REVENGE, HER BROTHER
WENT AFTER ZIEGLAND—



-- AND THEN TOOK HIS
OWN LIFE --

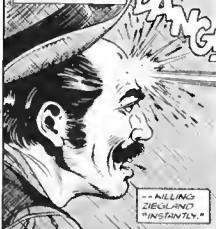


-- UNWARE THAT HIS FIRST BULLET
HAD MISSED ZIEGLAND AND EMBEDDED
IN A TREE.

THIRTY YEARS LATER, IN JULY
1913 HENRY ZIEGLAND DECIDED TO
FELL THE TREE WITH DYNAMITE--



-- WHEREUPON THE LONG-LOST
BULLET PROPELLED BY THE EX-
PLOSION FINALLY
FOUND ITS MARK ON
THE SECOND TRY--



-- KILLING
ZIEGLAND
"INSTANTLY."

A FISH PIONEER IN CAMBRIDGE ENGLAND
TUGGED A STILL-LEGIBLE BOOK (BOUND
IN SAILCLOTH) FROM THE BELLY OF A
FISH CAUGHT IN 1626.



IT PROVED TO BE A THEO-
LOGICAL TREATISE
WRITTEN BY JOHN FRITH
A HUNDRED YEARS
EARLIER.



CRITICS!

FRITH'S WRITINGS HAD CAUSED HIM
TO BE BURNED AT THE STAKE AS A
HERETIC IN 1533.

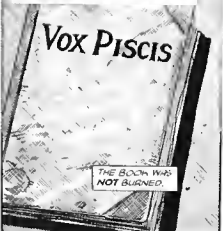
THE MANUSCRIPT HAD BEEN WRITTEN
WHILE FRITH WAS IMPRISONED AT
OXFORD - IN A CELLAR USED TO
STORE FISH--



PEE-YEW!

WHERE OTHER PRISONERS HAD
ACTUALLY DIED FROM THE
STENCH

TO HONOR THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF
ITS COMPOSITION AND DELIVERANCE,
THE BOOK WAS REPRINTED IN 1927
AS **VOX PISCIS** - LITERALLY "VOICE
OF THE FISH."



THE BOOK WAS
NOT BURNED

BEFORE IMMERSING HIMSELF IN PARANORMAL RESEARCH, 19TH CENTURY FRENCH ASTRONOMER CAMILLE FLAMMARION WAS WRITING HIS MAJOR WORK **L'ATMOSPHERE**

WHOOOSH

WHEN A GALE OF WIND ABRUPTLY BLEW HIS WINDOW OPEN AND SUCKED AWAY THE PAGES HE HAD JUST COMPLETED

THE WIND DEPOSITED THE PAGES IN THE STREET NEAR A PASSING MESSENGER EMPLOYED BY FLAMMARION'S PUBLISHER

CAMILLE SAVING ME A TROUPE UP HIS STAIRS

BUT SINCE THIS HAPPENED BEYOND THE ASTRONOMER'S SIGHT--

-- HE WAS ASTONISHED TO LATER RECEIVE PROOFS OF WHAT HE HAD ASSUMED WAS GONE WITH THE WIND

SACRE BLEU OR SHOULD I SAY SACRE BLEW!

HE WOULD NOT, AFTER ALL, BE FORCED TO REWRITE HIS CHAPTER ON "THE FORCE OF THE WIND"

WHEN THE FAMOUS LOCH NESS "FLUJPER" PHOTO WAS CAPTURED BY ROBERT RINES'S MOTION-TRIGGERED UNDERWATER CAMERA IN 1935, PROMINENT BRITISH NATURALIST SIR PETER SCOTT PROCLAIMED THE "LOCH NESS MONSTER" A LIVING SPECIES

SCOTT WAS SO CONVINCED OF THE CREATURE'S REALITY IN FACT, THAT HE GAVE THE SPECIES A NAME: **NESSITERAS RHOMBOPTERYX** -- "NESS MONSTER WITH DIAMOND-SHAPED FIN"

THERE CAN NO LONGER BE ANY DOUBT IN THE FACE OF SUCH SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE

I BELIEVE IN THE LOCH NESS MONSTER

IN THE FACE OF OVERWHELMING ODDS, HOWEVER, NESSIE'S NEW GREEN APPPELLATION WAS ALSO A PERFECT ANAGRAM FOR: "MONSTER MONX BY SIR PETER S."

A COMPUTER AT AIRGOED HIGH SCHOOL IN NORTH WALES RANDOMLY ASSIGNED THE NUMBER "007" TO A 15-YEAR-OLD CANDIDATE FOR EXAMINATIONS IN 1990

RIGHT-NOW WHERE'S PUSSY GALORE?

007

THE STUDENT'S NAME WAS, OF COURSE, JAMES BOND

STOPPING BY CHANCE AT A RESTAURANT OUTSIDE MILAN ON JULY 28, 1900, ITALY'S KING UMBERTO I WAS ASTONISHED TO ENCOUNTER HIS DEAD-RINGER DOUBLE--

--THE RESTAURANT'S OWNER, WHO WAS ALSO NAMED UMBERTO AND WHO HAD BEEN BORN IN THE SAME TOWN WITH THE SAME BIRTHDAY.

FOURTEENTH
OF MARCH,
1844

I TOO,
YOUR
MAJESTY!

BOTH HAD TWICE BEEN DECORATED FOR BRAVERY, AND BOTH TIMES AT THE SAME LERE-MCNIES--ONCE IN 1866 AND AGAIN IN 1870.

AND THE
DAY OF MY
CORONATION--

--WAS THE
SAME DAY I
OPENED THIS
RESTAURANT!

WHEN AMAZED RESTAURATEUR UMBERTO LEFT TO FETCH THE MEALS, AMAZED KING UMBERTO PROCLAIMED--

I INTEND TO
MAKE THAT MAN
A CAVALIER OF
THE CROWN OF
ITALY
TOMORROW!

BUT WHEN HE ASKED ABOUT HIS DOUBLE THE NEXT DAY THE KING WAS SHOCKED TO LEARN--

HE HAD JUST BEEN KILLED IN A
SHOOTING ACCIDENT. YOUR
MAJESTY.

THAT'S
TERRIBLE!
WHEN IS THE
FUNERAL

THE VERY NEXT MOMENT, THE ROYAL UMBERTO ALSO DIED--SHOT THREE TIMES BY AN ASSASSIN.

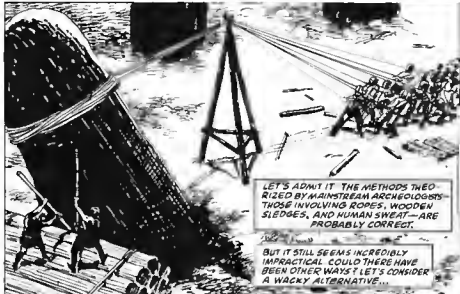
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!

LIKE ME YOU HAVE PROBABLY
IMAGINED MANY POSSIBLE "MEANINGS"
FOR EACH OF THE FOREGOING
SYNCHRONICITIES, BUT SURELY THEY
CAN SHARE ONLY A SINGLE
"CAUSE"--

--THE COSMIC
TRICKSTER ENJOYING
SOME LAUGHS.

MOVING MEGALITHS

ANCIENT MEGALITHIC STRUCTURES—DEMANDING THE LONG-DISTANCE TRANSPORT OF MANY-TON STONES—BEG TWO QUESTIONS: WHY WERE THEY BUILT? AND HOW WAS THIS DONE WITH PRIMITIVE TECHNOLOGY?



LET'S ADMIT IT: THE METHODS THEORIZED BY MAINSTREAM ARCHEOLOGISTS—THOSE INVOLVING ROPES, WOODEN SLEDGES, AND HUMAN SWEAT—ARE PROBABLY CORRECT.

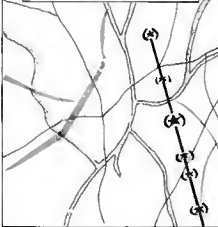
BUT IT STILL SEEMS INCREDIBLY IMPRACTICAL. COULD THERE HAVE BEEN OTHER WAYS? LET'S CONSIDER A WACKY ALTERNATIVE...

MEGALITHIC CIRCLES, HENGES, AND STANDING STONES WERE ALWAYS ERRECTED ON "SACRED SITES"—AND EARLY CHRISTIAN CHURCHES WERE ALMOST ALWAYS BUILT ATOP MEGALITHIC RUINS AT THESE SAME SITES.



BUT WHY? WHAT WAS SO SPECIAL ABOUT THESE SPECIFIC PLACES?

MAPS SHOW THAT SACRED SITES CAN BE LINKED BY THE DOZENS IN STRAIGHT LINES ACROSS HUNDREDS OF MILES—BUT WHY ARE THEY LOCATED ON THESE INVISIBLE "TRACKS"?



RESEARCHERS CLAIM THAT EARTH'S ELECTROMAGNETIC ENERGY TRAVELS IN "LEY LINES" STRETCHING BETWEEN "NODES" WHERE THE ENERGY IS MORE STRONGLY MANIFESTED.



DOWSERS AND PSYCHIC-SENSITIVES CLAIM THEY CAN DETECT "ENERGY" AT THESE SITES.



YIKES! THE ROD'S JERKING IN MY HAND!

OOOH! FEEL THE VIBES.

THESE "ENERGY NODES," THEN, WERE SOMEHOW DETECTED BY THE MEGALITH BUILDERS AND BECAME THE PLANETS' "SACRED SITES."

I DON'T CARE HOW FAR THE QUARRY IS! STONEHENGE GOES HERE!



BUT WHY PIERCE THE GROUND AT THESE "LEY NODES" WITH STONES OF ENORMOUS SIZE?



(HERE COMES THE WACKY PART...)

LET'S SAY THE EARTH'S "LEY NODES" ARE EQUIVALENT TO THE HUMAN BODY'S SEVEN MAJOR AND MANY MORE MINOR CHAKRAS, OR "ENERGY CENTERS."



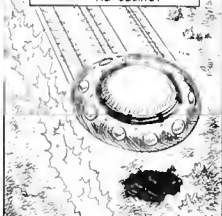
AND IF THE BODY'S ENERGY FLOW IS ENHANCED BY THE INSERTION OF ACUPUNCTURE NEEDLES AT CHAKRA POINTS, MAYBE LEY LINES FLOW BETTER WHEN THE EARTH'S SKIN IS "PUNCTURED" AT NODE POINTS BY MEGALITHIC STONES.



JUST AS THE HUMAN BODY IS KEPT HEALTHY AND ENERGIZED BY THE PROPER FLOW BETWEEN CHAKRA POINTS, SO TOO MIGHT THE EARTH BE "TUNED" BY THE PROPER FLOW OF ITS "HARMONIC" ENERGY. GRID



PIERRE MICHEL CATALOGUED A PREPONDANCE OF UFO SIGHTINGS ALONG EARTH'S LEY LINES, SUGGESTING THE UFOs WERE ATTRACTED TO ELECTROMAGNETIC ENERGY— BUT MAYBE THEY WERE JUST REFUELING.



AND FINALLY, MAYBE THE MEGALITH BUILDERS ALSO KNEW HOW TO EXPLOIT THIS LEY LINE EM ENERGY— IN THE TRANSPORT OF THEIR STONE "NEEDLES" FROM ONE NODE POINT TO ANOTHER AND ANOTHER ALL AROUND THE WORLD.

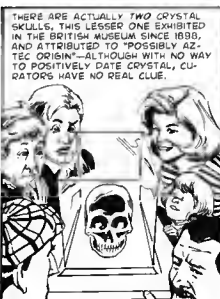
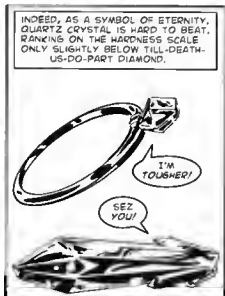
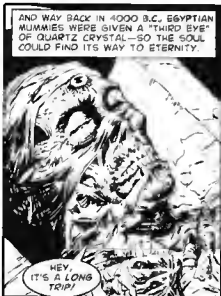
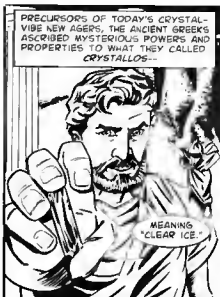


NO ROPES, NO WOODEN SLEDGES, NO HUMAN SWEAT.

BINGO!— ONE MONOLITHIC MYSTERY INSTANTLY SOLVED, LEAVING ONLY THIS CHICKEN-OR-EGG POSTSCRIPT

WHICH CAME FIRST—THE ENERGY OR THE ACUPUNCTURE?





POOH-POOHING ANY NOTION OF MYSTICAL PROPERTIES, CURATORS ADMIT THEIR SKULL HAS BEEN THE MUSEUM'S MOST POPULAR ATTRACTION SO FAR, HOLDING VISITORS SPELLBOUND FOR A CENTURY...



NO SWEEPIN',
MATE. TILL THAT
BLOODY THING'S
COVERED.

AS
USUAL.

--WHILE NIGHT CLEANING CREWS
REFUSE TO WORK UNDER ITS
GRUESOME GAZE.

IN CONTRAST TO THE CRUDER BRIT MUSEUM SKULL (WITH ITS "MERE INDICATIONS OF TEETH CHARACTERISTIC OF ANCIENT MEXICAN ART"), THE M-H SPECIMEN IS SO ANATOMICALLY PRECISE THAT IT COULD BE AN ACTUAL SKULL, SOMEHOW "TRANSMUTED" TO CRYSTAL.



WHILE A SINGLE MARK ON ONE TOOTH OF THE BRIT MUSEUM SKULL MAY BE EVIDENCE OF A RELATIVELY MODERN BOW-AND-STRING CUTTING TOOL, THE ALLEGEDLY OLDER M-H "MAYAN" SKULL BEARS NO TOOL MARKS AT ALL.



AND IF THE M-H SKULL WAS PAINSTAKINGLY GROUND AND POLISHED BY HAND AND SAND ALONE, IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN 150 TO 300 YEARS TO DO THE JOB!



THERE'S A
SKULL IN THIS
CHUNK SOMEWHERE
NOT THAT I'LL LIVE
TO SEE IT.

IS IT
MY TURN
YET?

EVEN WITH TODAY'S
TECHNOLOGY, IT WOULD
TAKE THREE YEARS TO
MAKE A SIMILAR SKULL.

FACED WITH SUCH AN IMPOSSIBLE ARTIFACT, SOME RESEARCHERS WONDER IF ANCIENT STONEMASONS POSSESSED HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED TOOLS AND EVEN "STONE-SOFTENING LIQUIDS."

BUT IS THIS
SKULL ACTUALLY
MAYAN? THE ANSWER
IS EITHER "MAYBE" OR
"PROBABLY," WITH WEIRD-
ER OPTIONS LURKING
BEYOND.



IN 1927, ADVENTURER-EXPLORER F.A. "MIKE" MITCHELL-HEDGES TOOK HIS ADOPTED DAUGHTER ANNA TO EXCAVATE THE "LOST CITY" OF LUGANTUM IN HONDURAS, NOW BELIZE.



I
LOVE RUINS,
DADDY!

DIGGING IN TEMPLE RUINS ON HER 17TH BIRTHDAY, ANNA SIFTED THROUGH THE RUBBLE OF A COLLAPSED ALTAR AND GLIMPSED THE GLITTER OF SOMETHING ASTOUNDING.



LOOK, DADDY!
A SKULL OF CRYSTAL
—WITH NO LOWER
JAW!

THREE MONTHS LATER, NEAR THAT SAME SPOT, ANNA MADE ANOTHER DISCOVERY.



LOOK,
DADDY!
A LOWER
JAW!

THE TWO MADE
A PERFECTLY
HINGED FIT.

SO PERFECT, IN FACT, THAT MAYAN PRIESTS COULD HAVE ROCKED THE SKULL BACK FOR AN OPEN-MOUTHED "SPEAKING" EFFECT.



PAY NO
ATTENTION TO
THE VENTRILOQUIST
BEHIND THE SKULL!
JUST GIVE ME YOUR
BEATING HEART!

AUTHORS ADRIAN GILBERT AND MAURICE COTTERELL SUGGEST THE SKULL COULD HAVE ACTED AS A HUGE MAGNIFYING GLASS TO FOCUS SUNLIGHT—ENABLING IT TO LITERALLY "BREATHE FIRE"



BEHOLD THE
MAGIC POWER
OF DEATH!

YAAAH!

SCHEPTICS, HOWEVER, DOUBT THE ARTIFACT'S AUTHENTICITY, SUGGESTING THAT MIKE MITCHELL-WEDGES MAY HAVE BOOSED THE TRUTH AND PLANTED THE SKULL AS A BIRTHDAY PRESENT FOR HIS DAUGHTER.



HEH HEH HEH
...WON'T SHE BE
SURPRISED?

IF SO, IT COULD HAVE COME
FROM ANY PLACE AND ANY
TIME UP TO 1927

TO WHICH ANNA
REPLIED IN 1987



NONSENSE!
MY FATHER WOULD
NOT HAVE SPENT MANY
THOUSANDS OF POUNDS
ON AN EXPEDITION JUST
TO BURY A CRYSTAL
SKULL

BEFORE HIS DEATH IN 1959, MITCHELL-HEDGES HIMSELF HAD THIS TO SAY, SUPPOSEDLY PASSED ON FROM LOCAL DESCENDANTS OF THE MAYA

WHEN HE WILLED DEATH WITH THE HELP OF THE SKULL, DEATH INVARIABLY FOLLOWED. IT WAS BEING DESCRIBED AS THE EMBODIMENT OF ALL EVIL.

IT IS AT LEAST 3,600 YEARS OLD AND ACCORDING TO LEGEND WAS USED BY THE HIGH PRIEST WHEN PERFORMING ESOTERIC RITES.

IF TRUE, THEN THE SKULL CAME FROM A CITY ABANDONED MORE THAN 1000 YEARS AGO—AND "3,600 YEARS OLD" MAKES THE SKULL 2,000 YEARS OLDER THAN ANY MAYANS, LET ALONE THE HIGH CIVILIZATION OF A.D. 700 TO 900.

FURTHERMORE, WITH ITS MORTAR-LESS CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLETE ABSENCE OF CHARACTERISTIC STATUES, STELES, AND HIEROGLYPHS, LUSAANTUM IS UNLIKE EVERY KNOWN MAYAN SITE.

INDEED, AUTHOR-EXPLORER DAVID HATCHER CHILDRESS SAYS LUSAANTUM MAY NOT BE MAYAN AT ALL—BUT SOMETHING FAR OLDER

MOST SURPRISINGLY, AFTER STUDYING THE M-H SKULL FOR SIX YEARS, NEWLY-LETT-PACKARD CRYSTALLOGRAPHER FRANK DORLAND CONCLUDED:

IT COULD BE 12,000 YEARS OLD

HIS OTHER FINDINGS ARE EVEN MORE STUNNING.

WHEN DORLAND TOOK THE SKULL HOME, HE DISCOVERED THAT IT "PRODUCED SOUNDS"—HIGH-PITCHED SILVER BELLS, CHANTING AND "A GABRIELLA CHOICE" THE SOUNDS OF "PROWLING JUNGLE CATS"

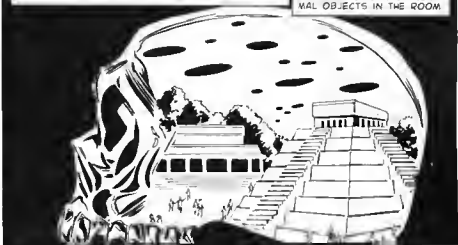
ALL CLEARLY HEARD (BY OTHERS AS WELL) YET IMPOSSIBLE TO TAPE RECORD

DORLAND ALSO SAYS THE SKULL HOLDS "VISIONS" FOR MANY PEOPLE "I HAVE BEEN SHAKEN UP A BIT MYSELF, BECAUSE I HAVE SEEN A LONG THING LIKE A COFFIN, WITH MAYBE A DOZEN SKULLS ON IT."

DORLAND ALSO SAW FACES AND HIGH MOUNTAINS WITHIN THE CRYSTAL SKULL—AND ONCE PHOTOGRAPHED AN "AURA" OR ENERGY-GLOW AROUND IT.



OTHERS DESCRIBE A GREENISH OR "COTTONY HAZE" GLOW WITHIN THE TEMPORAL LOBE AREA—AND THERE ARE ALLEGEDLY PHOTOS OF THIS GLOW FORMING UPON ABOVE THE ANCIENT TEMPLES OF CHICHEN ITZA



DORLAND SAYS THESE ARE INK-BLOT-LIKE SCENES—DISTORTED REFRACTIONS AND REFLECTIONS OF NORMAL OBJECTS IN THE ROOM

"THE SKULL MAKES PEOPLE THIRSTY," DORLAND SAYS, WHILE OTHER COMMONLY REPORTED PHYSICAL EFFECTS INCLUDE ACCELERATED PULSE AND A "TUGGING OF THE EYES FROM THEIR SOCKETS."



DORLAND: "I WOULD SAY THAT THE MASS OF CRYSTAL TRIGGERS CERTAIN REFLEXES IN THE BRAIN. TO HEAR THINGS, SEE THINGS"—WHICH MAY BE WHY THE MAYANS PRIZED CRYSTAL FOR ITS "MAGICAL" ABILITIES.



IT'S A BELIEF SHARED BY ROMANIAN GYPSIES (ORIGINALLY FROM INDIA) AND OTHER FORTUNE-TELLERS THROUGH THE AGES



"SCRYING" (FROM DESCRY: TO CATCH SIGHT OF) IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A SEER STARES AT ANY REFLECTIVE SURFACE—WATER, METAL GLASS, EVEN A SOAP BUBBLE, AS WELL AS CRYSTAL BALLS—UNTIL THE FUTURE IS DISCERNED



GEORGE KUNZ SUGGESTS A "SCIENTIFIC" EXPLANATION FOR SCRYING: AFTER PROLONGED STARING AT ANY POLISHED SURFACE, THE OPTIC NERVES MAY BECOME FATIGUED OR EVEN PARALYZED, CEASING EXTERNAL TRANSMISSIONS TO THE BRAIN



NORMAL SIGHT IS THEN REVERSED, WITH THE STARVED BRAIN SUPPLYING INTERNAL IMAGES WHICH ARE "PROJECTED" ONTO OR INTO THE REFLECTIVE OBJECT, THERE TO BE SEEMINGLY SEEN.

WITH UNIQUE PIEZOELECTRIC PROPERTIES (IDEAL FOR RADIOS AND WRISTWATCHES), CAN QUARTZ CRYSTAL SOMEHOW "CHANNEL THE FREQUENCY" OF BRAINWAVES WITHIN THE GAZER'S SKULL?



FRANK DORLAND FEELS THAT CRYSTAL DOES INDEED ACT AS AN "AMPLIFIER FOR PSYCHIC ENERGY"—WHILE CRYSTAL RESEARCHER NICK NOCERINO BELIEVES THE M-H SKULL ACTUALLY "RECORDS VIBRATIONS OF EVENTS OCCURRING AROUND IT," ACTING AS A "CAMERA."



(MAKING ONE MAN'S "INKBLOT" ANOTHER MAN'S HOLOGRAPH.)

SO CRYSTAL'S WEIRD—BUT HOW WEIRD? CAN ITS "VIBES" BRIDGE THE GULF TO ANOTHER REALITY, CO-EXISTING WITH OUR OWN SPACE AND TIME BUT AT A "DIFFERENT FREQUENCY?"

DOES THE SKULL "TUNE IN" THAT FREQUENCY, JUST AS A RADIO-CRYSTAL TUNES THE FREQUENCIES OF DIFFERENT BROADCAST STATIONS?



MAYBE THE SKULL'S CRYSTALLINE CURVATURE REFLECTS "MIRAGES" FROM THAT OTHER SPACE-TIME—JUST AS THE CURVATURE OF EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE ABOVE BRISTOL, ENGLAND, REFLECTS A MIRAGE OF THAT CITY IN THE SKY OVER ALASKA



THE AUTHORS OF "MYSTERY OF THE CRYSTAL SKULLS REVEALED" GET WEIRDEST OF ALL, SUGGESTING THE M-H SPECIMEN IS ONLY ONE OF THIRTEEN HIGH-TECH MYSTICAL SKULLS ONCE KEPT IN TIBET—BUT ORIGINALLY FROM ATLANTIS



THE "MYTH" OF THE GREAT CATAclysm IS SHARED BY THE ANCIENT PEOPLES OF MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA —AS IS THE FOLLOW-UP STORY OF THE WHITE-SKINNED BEARDED "GOD" COMING FROM THE SEA IN A "BOAT WITHOUT PADDLES" TO TEACH CIVILIZATION.



THE MAYANS KNEW THIS GOD AS "KUKULCAN"—WHILE HE WAS "QUETZALCOATL" TO THE AZTECS AND "VIRACocha" TO THE INCAS.

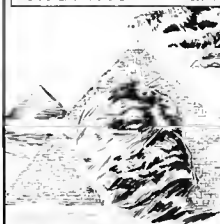
AUTHOR GRAHAM HANCOCK HINTS THAT THESE "GODS" WERE ACTUAL MEN FROM SOME HIGHLY ADVANCED ANCIENT CIVILIZATION—PERHAPS SUNKEN ATLANTIS—PASSING ON THE LEGACY OF THEIR DESTROYED CULTURE.



THE ANCIENT SUMERIANS (EARTH'S FIRST CIVILIZATION, WHICH MYSTERIOUSLY APPEARED "OVERNIGHT") TOLD THE SAME POST-FLOOD STORY OF "GODS" ARRIVING TO TEACH WRITING, AGRICULTURE, BUILDING, MARRIAGE—EVERYTHING



AND THE HIGH PRIESTS OF ANCIENT EGYPT TOLD PLATO FLAT-OUT THAT ALL THEIR SCIENCE AND MYSTICISM WAS TAUGHT BY "ELDERS FROM ATLANTIS" TRACING A STRAIGHT LINE ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN BETWEEN THE WORLD'S TWO GREAT "PYRAMID CULTURES"



MIKE MITCHELL-HEDGES' PURPOSE IN LUBAUNTUM, BY THE WAY, WAS TO "SEARCH FOR EVIDENCE OF ATLANTIS"—AND HIS DAUGHTER MAY HAVE FOUND IT.

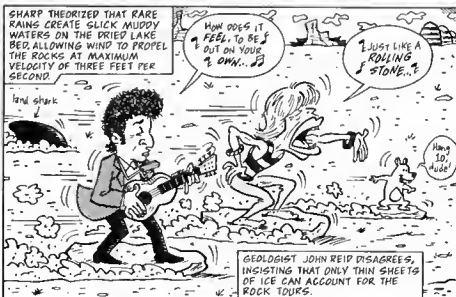
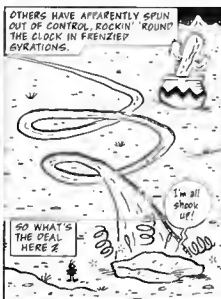


AND SO WHILE IT'S EASY TO DISMISS TODAY'S CRYSTAL-HUGGING REINCARNATED ATLANTEANS, JUST REMEMBER: RULERS HAVE ALWAYS RELIED ON SCRYERS—AND EMPERORS HAVE RISEN AND FALLEN BASED ON WHAT THEY'VE SEEN

ALL OF WHICH MAKES ONE THING CRYSTAL-CLEAR—

—THAT NANCY REAGAN AND HILLARY CLINTON WERE SIMPLY UPHOLDING PALACE TRADITION BY INVITING "NEW AGE KOOKS" TO THE WHITE HOUSE

NO IT'S NOT A BOMB—IT'S A CRYSTAL BALL—I'M HERE TO SEE THE FIRST LADY—AND THE FUTURE TOO!

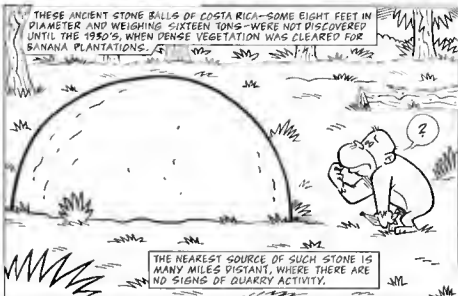


BUT EITHER WAY—WIND AND RAIN OR WIND AND ICE—THOSE WERE MERELY *SLIDING* STONES.

WHAT ABOUT THE INEXPLICABLY ROLLING VARIETY?



THESE ANCIENT STONE BALLS OF COSTA RICA—SOME EIGHT FEET IN DIAMETER AND WEIGHING SIXTEEN TONS—WERE NOT DISCOVERED UNTIL THE 1930'S, WHEN DENSE VEGETATION WAS CLEARED FOR BANANA PLANTATIONS.



VOLCANIC ACTIVITY CAN PRODUCE ROUGHLY SPHERICAL BOULDERS—AND IT'S POSSIBLE THAT HUMANS FINISHED NATURE'S WORK BY CHISELING SUCH ROCKS INTO SMOOTH, GEOMETRICALLY PERFECT SPHERES.



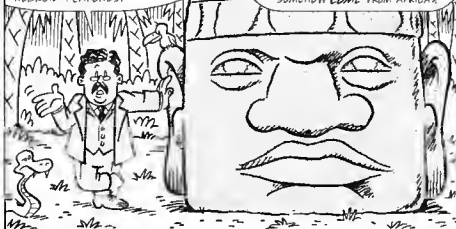
BUT WHY? WHAT WAS THE POINT? AND IF HUMANS WERE INVOLVED, HOW DID THEY TRANSPORT THESE GIANT BALLS OVER SO MUCH ROUGH TERRAIN? WHY ARE THERE NO RUINS NEARBY?

THE TRUTH IS—WE JUST DON'T KNOW.



EVEN MORE MYSTERIOUS ARE THESE GIANT BOULDER-HEADS FOUND IN MEXICO AND SUPPOSEDLY DEPICTING ANCIENT MAYAN ANCESTORS CALLED "OLMECS," YET CLEARLY DISPLAYING NEGROID FEATURES.

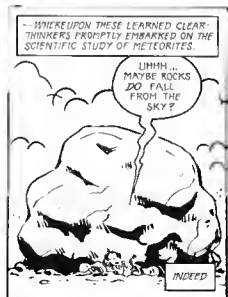
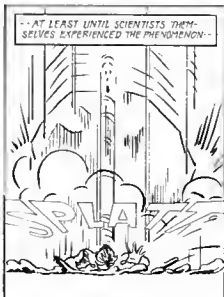
DID PRE-MAYAN CARVE THE LIKENESSES OF AFRICANS VISITING MEXICO MORE THAN 3000 YEARS AGO? WERE THE "OLMECS" THEMSELVES ACTUALLY AFRICAN? OR DID THE STONE HEADS SOMEHOW COME FROM AFRICA?



HARD TO SAY, BUT IT APPEARS...

...THAT THE ROLLING STONES ARE NOT THE ONLY "ROCK ACT" TO HAVE BLACK ROOTS.









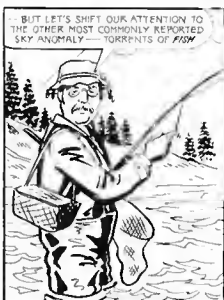
IN CHELTENHAM, LIFE IMITATED ART WHEN ANOTHER FALL OF PINK FROGS COINCIDED WITH THE RELEASE OF A MOVIE WHOSE POSTER SHOWED FALLING PINK FROGS AND FEATURED A FICTIONAL BAND (AND SOUNDTRACK SONG) CALLED 'THE PINK FROGS'



A SHOWER OF TINY FROGS ABOUT THE SIZE OF NICKELS...



FROM THE BIBLE TO YESTERDAY'S NEWSPAPER, HISTORY IS PACKED WITH SIMILAR ACCOUNTS OF BIZARRELY BETRACHIAN WEATHER PATTERNS...



BUT LET'S SHIFT OUR ATTENTION TO THE OTHER MOST COMMONLY REPORTED SKY ANOMALY—TORRENTS OF FISH



ALTHOUGH WITNESSES ARE USUALLY DISMISSED AS WACKY ALARMISTS



SOME FISHFALLS, LIKE THE 1861 SINGAPORE SHOWER, ARE ACCOMPANIED BY HEAVY RAINS FOLLOWING EARTHQUAKES

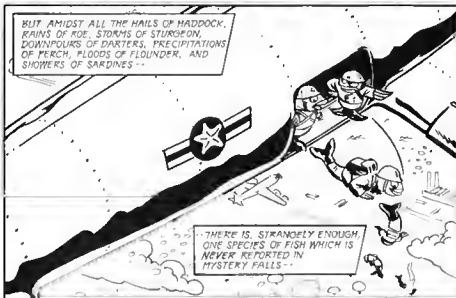
SCARY, YES—ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHINESE MAN WHO WAS KILLED BY A THREE-POUND CARP SMASHING HIS HEAD

MORE RECENT FISHFALLS, LIKE THE 1981 DOWNPOUR ON THE SANTA MONICA FREE WAY, HAVE STALLED TRAFFIC, SHATTERED WINDSHIELDS, AND EVEN CAUSED ACCIDENTS

LIKE FISH OUT OF THEIR DEPTHS, CONFUSED AUTHORITIES FLOUNDER FOR RATIONAL EXPLANATIONS, USUALLY SETTLING FOR 'FRANKSTERS WITH CATAPULTS,' 'TORNADOS' OR 'SPILLS FROM PASSING DELIVERY TRUCKS'



BUT, AMIDST ALL THE HAILES OF HADDOCK, RAINS OF ROE, STORMS OF STURGEON, DOWNPOURS OF DARTERS, PRECIPITATIONS OF PERCH, FLOODS OF FLOUNDER, AND SHOWERS OF SARDINES --



THE CULPRITS IN OTHER ANOMALOUS FALLS ARE CHUNKS OF ICE (MUCH LARGER THAN ANY RECORDED HAILSTONES) THAT OFTEN PLUMMET FROM PERFECTLY CLEAR SKIES.

I DON'T THINK OUR INSURANCE COVERS THIS!



SUCH ICEFALLS ARE ROUTINELY 'EXPLAINED' AS EJECTA FROM PASSING JETLINERS --



AND THUS IT EVER WAS -- EVEN IN THE 18TH CENTURY WHEN A TRANSYLVANIAN FISHFALL WAS BLAMED ON THE SAME SATANIC FORCES ALLEGEDLY RESPONSIBLE FOR VAMPIRES



THE FLYING FISH



DESPITE NUMEROUS HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS PREDATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AIRCRAFT,



AT THE CORE OF A CHUNK THAT FELL ON DUBUQUE, IOWA IN JUNE OF 1882 WERE TWO FROGS THAT HOTTED AWAY AFTER THE ICE MELTED

PUTTING ASIDE ALL THINGS ORGANIC FOR A MOMENT, THERE'S LITTLE TO EXPLAIN THE RAINS OF CERTAIN MANMADE OBJECTS--

--LIKE THE GENTLE SPRINKLING OF COINS THAT FELL NEAR SAINT ELIZABETH'S CHURCH IN ENGLAND

"FENCES FROM HEAVEN THEY ARE!"

A METAL SPHERE WHICH APPARENTLY FELL ON FLORIDA IN 1974 HAS BEEN LINKED TO "GIANT GYROS" FOUND IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND IN THE WAKE OF UFO SIGHTINGS--

BRINGING US TO THE "EXTRATERRESTRIAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH" THEORY

DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO WAIT UNTIL WE REACHED WATER BEFORE DISPOSING OF THOSE MARINE SPECIMENS?!

OOPS

ABSURD? YES

AND BESIDES, ANY SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION MUST EMBRACE THE ENTIRE SPECTRUM OF MYSTERY FALLS: EGGS, TORDS, GRABS, FETTERWINKLES, PENNIES, PAPER CURRENCY, FUNGI--

--MAGGOTS, "MANNIA", INSCRIBED STONES, "ANGEL-HAIR" BLOBS AND "PROTOPLASMS", BLOOD AND LUMPS OF FLESH, BLACK, RED, AND BLUE RAIN, CRUCIFIXES AND OTHER RELIGIOUS ARTIFACTS, MASKS--

--MARBLE CYLINDERS, COOKIES, OIL, CANDLE WAX, "STAR JELLY", MEAT, "BOG BUTTER", LICHEN, GRAINS, SEEDS, ALABASTER SHARDS OF GLASS AND METAL MUSSELS, WORDS, LIZARDS, TURKLES, SALAMANDERS--

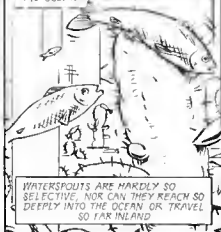
--CANDY, BLACK EGGS, SNAILS, COAL, AND FROZEN DUCKS TO MENTION JUST A FEW

ICHTHYOLOGIST E W GUDGER PROPOSED FOUR EXPLANATIONS: LAND-MIGRATORS SUCH AS THE "WALKING CATFISH", BURIED FISH BURROWING TO THE SURFACE, FISH STRANDED BY FLOODS OR OVERFLOWS, AND WATERSPOUTS.

OVERLOOKING THE FACT THAT GUDGER ADDRESSES ONLY FISH, HIS FOURTH EXPLANATION SEEMS PROMISING.

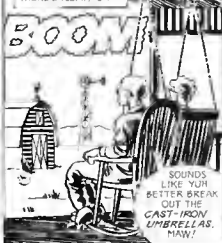
A WATERSPOUT SUCKS UP SURFACE WATER AND FISH, TRAVELS OVER LAND AND DUMPS ITS LOAD

YET MOST MYSTERY FALLS CONSIST OF IDENTICAL CLONE-LIKE SPECIMENS — SOMETIMES DEEP-SEA SPECIES — AND OFTEN OCCUR VAST DISTANCES FROM THE OCEAN.



WATERSPOUTS ARE HARDLY SO SELECTIVE, NOR CAN THEY REACH SO DEEPLY INTO THE OCEAN OR TRAVEL SO FAR INLAND.

SO WHAT ABOUT A PSYCHIC FACTOR? MANY WEIRD FALLS ARE PRECEDED (OR SIGNED) BY A LOUD REPORT, THUNDERCLAP, OR --



SOUNDS LIKE YUH BETTER BREAK OUT THE CAST-IRON UMBRELLAS, MAW!

AND FURIOUSLY SELECTIVE SHOWERS OF PEBBLES HAVE LONG BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH POLTERGEIST ACTIVITY.



THAT DOES IT, FAW! CALL THE EXORCIST!

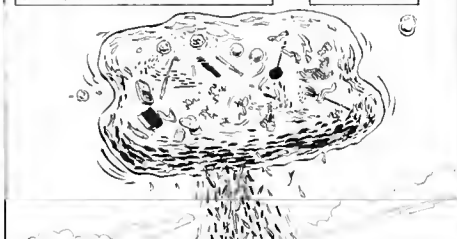
INDEED, OTHER THAN WHISTLING PAST THE GRAVEYARD — OR PERHAPS SINGIN' IN THE RAIN NO OTHER RESPONSE SEEMS RATIONAL.



BUT WHAT ABOUT A THEORY FROM THE BOOK OF THE DAMNED CONCERNING A MYSTERIOUS REGION CALLED 'THE SUPER-SARGASSO SEA'?

IT'S A REGION SOMEWHERE ABOVE, IN WHICH GRAVITY IS INOPERATIVE AND INTO WHICH THINGS FROM THIS EARTH ARE RAISED, AND THINGS CAST FROM OTHER WORLDS ARE COLLECTED --

-- UNTIL SHAKEN LOOSE BY STORMS, TO DROP LITERALLY 'OUT OF THE BLUE'.



MATCHING WEATHER PATTERNS WITH ANOMALOUS ACTIVITY, WRITER DAMON KNIGHT PROPOSED A 'PARALLEL UNIVERSE' LOCATION FOR THIS SUPER-SARGASSO SEA --

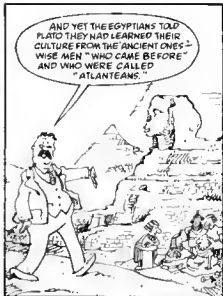
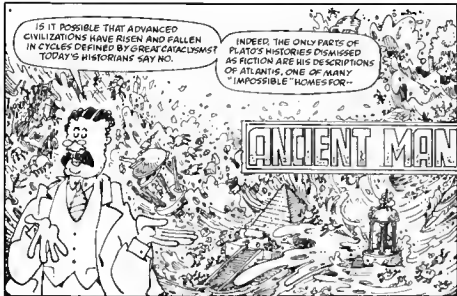
WHENCE ODD THINGS PERIODICALLY POPPED INTO OUR REALITY VIA ELECTROMAGNETIC TELEPORTATION.

KNIGHT'S 'SCIENTIFIC' GROUNDING OF THE SUPER-SARGASSO SEA WAS ENTIRELY SERIOUS, EVEN THOUGH THE ORIGINAL THEORY MAY HAVE BEEN INTENDED TO MEKELY.



RIB IT!

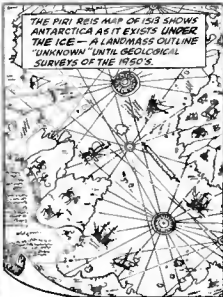
POKE FUN



AND THESE ROWS OF HUGE UNDERWATER BLOCKS OFF THE COAST OF Bimini MAY BE THE REMNANTS OF SUNKEN WALLS OR ROADS



THE PIRI REIS MAP OF 1513 SHOWS ANTARCTICA AS IT EXISTS UNDER THE ICE — A LANDMASS OUTLINE "UNKNOWN" UNTIL GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS OF THE 1950'S.



THIS MAP WAS COPIED FROM THE MUCH OLDER MAPS OF THE "ANCIENT SEA KINGS" — WHO SUPPOSEDLY CHARTED EARTH LONG BEFORE THE EXPLORERS OF OUR HISTORY.



AND, AS NOTED ELSEWHERE, THE INCAS, MAYAS, AND AZTECS ALL CLAIMED THEY LEARNED EVERYTHING FROM "WHITE-SKINNED BEARDED GODS" WHO CAME FROM THE SEA.



A RECENT THEORY HOLDS THAT VIRTUALLY ALL OF EARTH'S "MYTHS" AND "LEGENDS" CONTAIN EMBEDDED CODES PRESERVING AND TRANSMITTING ADVANCED KNOWLEDGE FROM THE REMOTE PAST



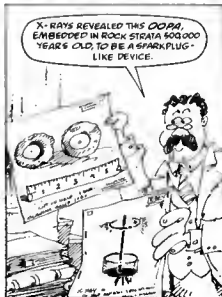
OOPS, WE GOT Q.O.R.A. — OUT-OF-PLACE ARTIFACTS SUCH AS THIS 2,000 YEAR-OLD "BAGDAD BATTERY" CAPABLE OF GENERATING ENOUGH JUICE FOR GOLD ELECTROPLATING.



OR HOW ABOUT THIS ANCIENT DIGITAL COMPUTER FOUND OFF THE COAST OF A GREEK ISLAND... AND DATING BACK TO 87 B.C.?



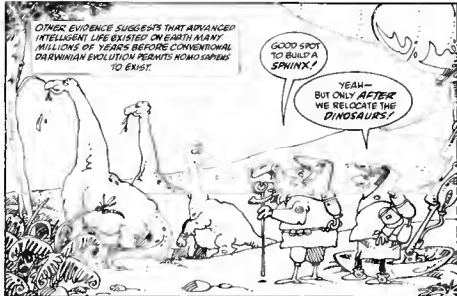
X-RAYS REVEALED THIS Q.O.R.A. EMBEDDED IN ROCK STRATA 500,000 YEARS OLD, TO BE A SPARK-PLUG-LIKE DEVICE.



OTHER EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT ADVANCED INTELLIGENT LIFE EXISTED ON EARTH MANY MILLIONS OF YEARS BEFORE CONVENTIONAL DARWINIAN EVOLUTION PERMITS HOMO SAPIENS TO EXIST.

GOOD SPOT TO BUILD A SPHINX!

YEAH— BUT ONLY AFTER WE RELOCATE THE DINOSAURS!



THIS ORNATELY INLAID BELL-SHAPED VESSEL, FOR INSTANCE, WAS BLASTED FROM FIFTEEN FEET OF SOLID ROCK IN 1952 --



-- WHILE THIS "METAL TUBE" WAS FOUND IN A 65-MILLION-YEAR-OLD CHALK BED IN FRANCE.



EVEN MORE ASTOUNDINGLY, THIS GROOVED METALLIC SPHERE FROM SOUTH AFRICA WAS FOUND IN A PRE-CAMBRIAN DEPOSIT 3 BILLION YEARS OLD



A MARBLE SLAB CUT FROM A QUARRY NEAR PHILADELPHIA IN 1891 CONTAINED THIS SYMMETRICAL INDENTATION WITH UPRAISED "SYMBOLS" OR "GLYPHS"



FOR ALL WE KNOW, OOPAS COULD BE ARTIFACTS OF SOME ANCIENT "LOST EXPEDITION" FROM ANOTHER WORLD.

PHONE HOME!



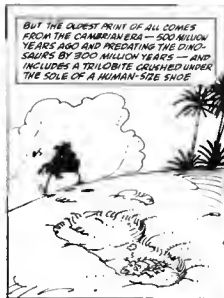
WHILE MODERN UFO'S COULD BE LONG-DELAYED RESCUE MISSIONS SEARCHING FOR THEIR LOST EXPLORERS

THE SIMPLEST EXPLANATION OF COURSE IS THAT OOPAS ARE HOMEGROWN



BUT WHETHER FROM THE BARREL OF AN ALIEN OR ATLANTIAN GUN, SOME BULLET APPARENTLY CREATED THE NEAT ENTRY AND LARGE EXIT-BLAST THROUGH HIS SKULL -- OF A NEANDERTHAL MAN.





AS ABOVE

IF THE MOON'S GRAVITY CREATES THE TIDES OF EARTH'S OCEANS AND IT DOES—CAN MORE DISTANT CELESTIAL BODIES AFFECT THE EARTH, AND EVEN US?

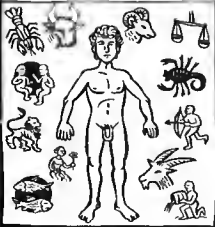


SO BELOW

WHEN THE ANCIENTS FIRST STUDIED THE HEAVENS, THEY FOUND CORRELATIONS WITH WHAT WAS HAPPENING ON EARTH—CHANGING SEASONS, FLOODING DELTAS, THE LENGTHS OF DAY AND NIGHT, AND SO ON.



THIS HEAVENLY INFLUENCE WAS EXTENDED TO INDIVIDUALS WHEN STAR CONSTELLATIONS BECAME THE SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC—WHOSE POSITIONS AT A PERSON'S BIRTH DICTATED HIS FUTURE AND EVEN HIS BASIC NATURE.

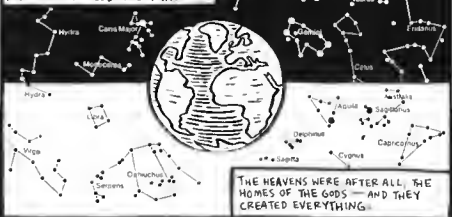


FROM THE ZOHAR, TRANSLATED BY ISAAC MEYER: "ALL THAT WHICH IS FOUND UPON THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH HAS ITS SPIRITUAL COUNTERPART ALSO TO BE FOUND ON HIGH—



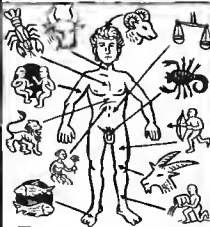
"—AND THERE DOES NOT EXIST THE SMALLEST THING IN THIS WORLD WHICH IS NOT ATTACHED TO SOMETHING ON HIGH, AND IS NOT FOUND IN DEPENDENCE ON IT."

THUS SEEING EARTH CONDITIONS AS A "REFLECTION" OF THE CHANGING NIGHT SKY, THE ANCIENTS JUMPED TO A CAUSE-AND-EFFECT CONCLUSION, ASSUMING THE HEAVENS CREATED OR AT LEAST INFLUENCED CHANGES ON EARTH.



THE HEAVENS WERE AFTER ALL, THE HOMES OF THE GODS—AND THEY CREATED EVERYTHING.

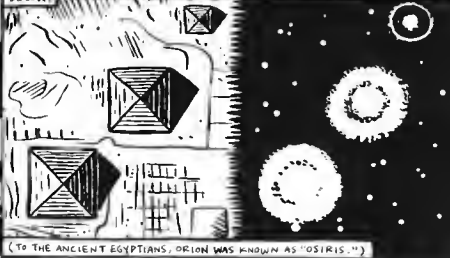
THE BELIEF WAS NO DOUBT TAKEN TO EXTREMES WHEN LINKS WERE DRAWN BETWEEN ZODIAC SIGNS AND HUMAN BODY PARTS—BUT CAN OVERALL DESTINY BE "WRIT IN THE STARS?"



THE 23-DEGREE TILT OF EARTH'S AXIS ACCOUNTS NOT JUST FOR THE SEASONS BUT ALSO FOR THE SHIFTING AGES OF THE ZODIAC, MOVING US RIGHT NOW THROUGH THE END OF THE AGE OF PISCES TOWARD THE DAWN OF AQUARIUS.



FROM ABOVE, TWO OF GIZA'S THREE PYRAMIDS ARE PERFECTLY ALIGNED, YET THE THIRD IS SLIGHTLY OFFSET—JUST LIKE THE THREE STARS IN ORION'S BELT SEEN FROM BELOW.



AND WHEN THE CONSTELLATION OF ORION (OSIRIS) WAS DIRECTLY ABOVE THE GREAT PYRAMID 12,500 YEARS AGO—



--THE ENIGMATIC GAZE OF THE LION-BODIED SPHINX WAS PERFECTLY ALIGNED WITH THE CONSTELLATION OF LEO THE LION—INDICATING TRULY ADVANCED AND ANCIENT KNOWLEDGE OF BOTH ASTROLOGY AND ASTRONOMY.



BUT WHILE WIDESPREAD BELIEF IN ASTROLOGY EXISTS EVEN TODAY, MODERN SCIENTISTS—ESPECIALLY ASTRONOMERS—ARE, WELL, "ABOVE" SUCH QUAIN'T NOTIONS.



INDEED, FRENCH STATISTICIAN MICHEL GAUQUELIN SET OUT IN 1950 TO PROVE THAT THE BIRTH-POSITIONS OF THE STARS AND PLANETS EXERT NO INFLUENCE WHATSOEVER ON ONE'S FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.



HIS OWN STATISTICS, HOWEVER, PROVED HIM WRONG—WITH FIVE MILLION TO ONE ODDS AGAINST PURE CHANCE, FOR INSTANCE, SHOWING THAT GREAT SOLDIERS TENDED TO HAVE THE WAR GOD MARS ASCENDANT IN THEIR HOROSCOPES.

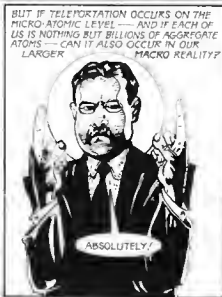
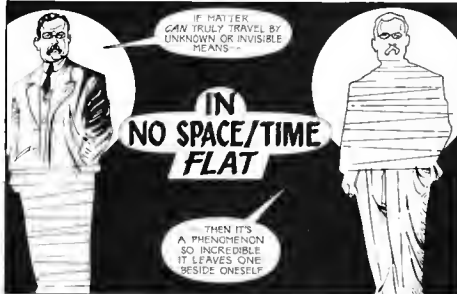


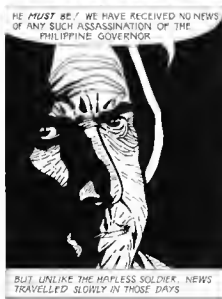
SO ARE WE SOMEHOW LINKED TO THE SUN AND MOON AND STARS? IS THERE GOOD REASON WHY ANCIENT MYSTICS AND 60S HIPPIES ACHIEVED "COSMIC" ALTERED STATES OF BEING "ONE WITH THE UNIVERSE?"



WHO KNOWS? BUT JUST AS ALCHEMY LED TO CHEMISTRY, ASTROLOGY BEGAT ASTRONOMY, SO MODERN SCIENTISTS SNEERING AT "ANCIENT WISDOM" ARE ALSO DISRESPECTING THEIR PARENTS—AND MAYBE, JUST MAYBE--







SO THE MOST HOLY TRIBUNAL OF THE INQUISITION IN MEXICO WAS FORCED TO THE ONLY "LOGICAL" CONCLUSION

THE SOLDIER WAS MERELY OBEYING ORDERS AND... GOT LOST. SEND HIM BACK TO THE PHILIPPINES

AHH. NO BLOOD AT ALL?

THERE SEEMED TO BE NO OTHER CHOICE

HAS ANYTHING SIMILAR EVER HAPPENED ELSEWHERE? THE ANSWER IS YES

WAY NORTH OF THE BORDER IN SOUTH BEND, INDIANA TOM LERCH'S FARMHOUSE WAS THE SCENE OF A PARTY ON CHRISTMAS EVE 1890

OLLIE — GO FETCH SOME WATER FROM THE WELL, SON

ALL RIGHT, MA — I'LL TAKE BOTH BUCKETS

SINCE THAT WAS APPARENTLY THE LAST ANYONE EVER SAW OF 20-YEAR-OLD OLIVER LERCH, "TELEPORTATION" IS JUST ONE OF THE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO HIS FATE

--"MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE" AND "ABDUCTION" BEING OTHERS

ABDUCTION SEEMS TO GET THE NOD ON THE BASIS OF OLIVER'S SUBSEQUENT CRY, STRIDENT ENOUGH TO CUT THROUGH THE REVELERS' CHRISTMAS CAROL

HELP! HELP! IT'S GOT ME!

OLIVER'S SINGLE SET OF TRACKS HALTED WITH NO SIGN OF A STRUGGLE, HALFWAY TO THE WELL — ONE BUCKET, BUT NOT THE OTHER, LAY NEARBY

THIS EVIDENCE, PLUS THE LOUD CRY FOR HELP, SEEMS TO INDICATE SOME BIZARRE AND ABRUPT "ABDUCTION VIA TELEPORTATION" — BUT THEN WE ARRIVE AT THE TRULY FETTERED ASPECT OF THE CASE

OLIVER'S VOICE RESUMED ITS PITIABLE PLEAS FOR A FULL FIVE MINUTES — LOUDER, THEN SOFTER, SCREAMING, THEN MOANING, AT TIMES FAR AWAY, THEN ALARMINGLY CLOSE, THEN DISTANT AGAIN — BUT ALWAYS SOUNDING FROM THE SKY —

"HELP!" OR PLEASE, HELP MEEEEE

-- A SKY IN WHICH ABSOLUTELY NOTHING COULD BE SEEN AND FROM WHICH FINALLY NOTHING MORE WAS HEARD

NEIGHBORS WERE ROUSED FOR AN INTENSIVE SEARCH — BUT NEITHER OLIVER NOR THE MISSING BUCKET WAS EVER FOUND

WITH OLIVER LERCH THUS LEFT IN THE LURCH, CONTEMPORARY WRITERS PROPOSED SOME WEIRD THEORIES: PREDATION BY GIANT EAGLE, GRAVITY-SNATCHING BY A PASSING HOT-AIR BALLOON, AND SLOW-MOTION SLIPPAGE INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION

MORE RECENTLY, RESEARCHERS SUCH AS M.K. JESSUP HAVE SUGGESTED THAT OLIVER WAS THE SUBJECT OF AN EARLY -- AND PERMANENT -- UFO ABDUCTION.

OF COURSE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT OLIVER BACKTRACKED THROUGH HIS OWN SNOW PRINTS, MID-AROUND A CORNER OF THE HOUSE UNTIL HIS FRIENDS AND FAMILY RUSHED OUT

THEN THERE WAS HIS VOICE FOR FIVE MINUTES BEFORE FINALLY RUNNING AWAY FROM THE FRONT OF HIS HOUSE

ANOTHER POSSIBLE EXPLANATION IS THE VORTEX THEORY. FOR EXAMPLE, IN DECEMBER 1873, MR. AND MRS. THOMAS B. CUMPTON CHECKED INTO THE VICTORIA HOTEL IN BRISTOL, ENGLAND — AND WERE IMMEDIATELY DISTURBED BY STRANGE NOISES

THE WEIRD SOUNDS RESUMED AT THREE IN THE MORNING, THIS TIME ACCOMPANIED BY A LITERAL "SINKING" FEELING — AS THE FLOOR OPENED UP TO SWALLOW THE BED

THEIR SHOUTS ECHOING STRANGELY, THE CUMPTONS BARELY ESCAPED BY LEAPING OUT OF THEIR ROOM — WHICH WAS LATER FOUND TO BE PERFECTLY NORMAL

WRITER HAROLD T. WILKINS SUGGESTS THE POSSIBILITY OF A "VORTEX THROUGH SOLID MATTER."



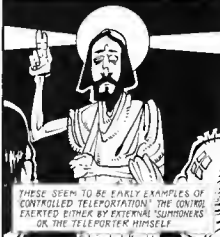
HE SAID: "A PERSON DRAWN INTO SUCH A VORTEX MIGHT BE DEPOSITED THOUSANDS OF MILES FROM HIS STARTING POINT."

THE BIBLE SAYS ELLIJAH WENT UP BY A WHIRLWIND INTO HEAVEN.



OTHER BIBLICAL FIGURES, INSTANTLY TRANSPORTED OVER LONG DISTANCES, WERE 'CARRIED BY ANGELS'.

WHILE THE RESURRECTED JESUS SOMEHOW DISAPPEARED FROM HIS TOMB TO ABRUPTLY REAPPEAR BEFORE HIS APOSTLES.



THESE SEEM TO BE EARLY EXAMPLES OF CONTROLLED TELEPORTATION! THE CONTROL EXERCISED EITHER BY EXTERNAL 'SUMMONERS' OR THE TELEPORTER HIMSELF.

ANY CONTROL OVER THE 1959 JAUNT TAKEN BY AN ARGENTINE BUSINESSMAN, HOWEVER, WAS DEFINITELY EXTERNAL.

MADRE DE DIOS!



STARTING HIS CAR OUTSIDE A HOTEL ON NATIONAL ROUTE 2, HE FOUND HIMSELF SUDDENLY ENVELOPED IN A WEIRD CLOUD.

THE NEXT THING HE KNEW, HE WAS ON AN UNFAMILIAR ROAD - WITH HIS CAR NOWHERE IN SIGHT.

PLEASE, CAN YOU GIVE ME A RIDE?



ONLY A FEW MINUTES HAD PASSED, ACCORDING TO HIS WRISTWATCH.

NEVERTHELESS, WHEN HE TOLD A PASSING TRUCK DRIVER WHERE HE HAD 'LEFT' HIS CAR.



THE DAZED MAN ACCEPTED A LIFT TO THE NEAREST POLICE STATION. WHEN A LONG DISTANCE CALL WAS PLACED TO THE HOTEL, HE WAS TOLD THAT HIS CAR WAS RIGHT OUTSIDE -



ACCORDING TO FIVE WITNESSES, INCLUDING A TOKYO BANK MANAGER, A SIMILAR CLOUD ENVELOPED ANOTHER CAR ON THE FUJISHIRO BYPASS IN NOVEMBER OF 1963. THE CAR, IN THIS CASE, A LIMOUSINE, WAS MOVING.



AND WHEN THE MYSTERY CLOUD DISAPPEARED, THE DRIVER, PASSENGER, AND LIMO ITSELF HAD ALL VANISHED.



SINCE THE LIMO WAS NEVER IDENTIFIED, IT IS NOT KNOWN WHERE - IF ANYWHERE - IT EVER REAPPEARED.

MAYBE THE CAR WAS
TELEPORTED TO THE
SAME MYSTERIOUS
REALM THAT FISH
AND AMPHIBIANS
SO OFTEN AND
INEXPLICABLY
FALL FROM

JAPANESE LIMO?
HOPPED OVER IT
JUST LAST TUESDAY!

OR IF IT REAPPEARED
OVER THE MIDDLE
OF AN OCEAN--

WHO WOULD EVER KNOW?

NEAR MIDNIGHT IN ARGENTINA ON JUNE 5,
1968 DR. GERALDO VIDAL AND HIS WIFE
RAFFO WERE TRAVELING ON THE SAME
NATIONAL ROUTE 2 MENTIONED EARLIER.

DRIVING INTO A 'CONFUSING CLOUD OF
THICKLY SWIRLING MIST' THEY
APPARENTLY FELL ASLEEP.

--AND
AWAKENED THE
NEXT MORNING
TO FIND THE
PAINT SCORCHED
FROM THEIR CAR.
"AS IF
BLOWTORCH
HAD BEEN
TAKEN TO IT."

ACAPULCO
MEXICO CITY
TIJUANA

THEY DISCOVERED, TO
THEIR AMAZEMENT, THAT
THEY WERE IN MEXICO.

GIVEN THAT THEY
WOKE UP 4,000 MILES
FROM THEIR NODDING-OFF
POINT, IT SEEMS THE
VIDALS HAD SOMEHOW
DRIVEN THEIR CAR
ALL NIGHT LONG,
NONSTOP (WHILE
ASLEEP) AT SPEEDS
EXCEEDING 900
MILES PER HOUR.

EITHER THAT,
OR THEY HAD A
LITTLE HELP FROM
THAT FAMILIAR
"CLOUD OF MIST"

IN JANUARY OF 1969, A BRAZILIAN
COUPLE ENCOUNTERED THE SAME
VAPORS



BRAZIL MEXICO

AS DID YET ANOTHER BRAZILIAN
COUPLE, TIK AND MRS. MARCIO
FERRAZ, NEAR THE URUGUAY BORDER.

THIS GIVES
NEW MEANING
TO 'ILLEGAL
ALIEN!'

WELCOME
TO
MEXICO

WHILE SUCH CASES CLEARLY LEAVE US IN A
FOG, OTHER EXAMPLES OF 'TELEPORTATION'
ARE SEEMINGLY ENGINEERED BY
INTELLIGENT AGENCIES--

WHETHER
SEEN OR
UNSEEN

IN THE 'SEEN' CATEGORY ARE STRANGE LIGHTS OR UFOs. WHETHER ALIEN SPACECRAFT OR ENERGY FALLOUT FROM SOME UNKNOWN PHENOMENON

MOOO!

(ABDUCTEES CLAIMING THEY'VE BEEN TELEPORTED THROUGH WALLS HAVE REPORTED UFOs CONCEALED IN CLOUDS OF MIST.)

WILDEST OF ALL MAY BE THE PHYSICALLY POSSIBLE SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION: MATTER CONVERTED TO ENERGY AND TRANSMITTED TO A DIFFERENT LOCATION FOR RECONVERSION

SHIPPING ELEPHANT NOW!

RECEIVING ELEPHANT NOW

MUCH AS RADIO WAVES ARE SENT FROM TRANSMITTER TO RECEIVER

AND EVEN THOUGH THERE'S NEVER BEEN AN EXPLANATION WHICH ITSELF DIDN'T REQUIRE EXPLAINING, SCI-FI IS NEVER TOO SHY TO TRY

BEAM ME DOWN, SCOTTY!

IF THERE EXISTS A FOURTH DIMENSION, WHETHER TIME OR ANOTHER ASPECT OF SPACE, CAN THINGS SLIP (OR GET SUCKED) INTO IT VIA 'PORTALS' OR 'WINDOWS'

THEN POP BACK INTO OUR THREE-DIMENSIONAL REALITY AT A DIFFERENT TIME AND/OR PLACE Y

IN GEORGE LANGELAAN'S CAUTIONARY STORY, 'THE FLY' (FILMED SEVERAL TIMES), A SCIENTIST ACCIDENTALLY SHARES HIS TELEPORT BOOTH WITH AN UNNOTICED TRAVELING COMPANION—TO THEIR MUTUALLY SCRAMBLED REGRET.

DOH!

BUZZ-BUZZ!

HELP PLEASE!

INDEED, WHEN IT COMES TO INSTANTANEOUS TRANSPORT, TRUSTING TECHNOLOGY MAY NOT BE THE WISEST COURSE.

AFTER ALL, ONE COULD HARDLY TRAVEL WITH SAY, A SET OF GOLF CLUBS—LET ALONE A SUITCASE

CHAPTER TWO

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

Whether created by alien technologies so advanced they might as well be supernatural, or spawned by wilder forces which really *are* supernatural, the UFOs over our heads cast heavy shadows indeed. These anomalous aerial objects cannot fail to inspire wonder or fear (usually both). How we react to them may reveal the nature of our psyches and souls.

Nothing new, UFOs are in fact older than history and may have been here forever. The recent abduction epidemic and rumors of government-alien cover-ups, then, are but small pieces of the phenomenon's overall puzzle. Moreover, both puzzle pieces may be nothing but paranoia and false memories as a result of growing UFO awareness. And if this is how we respond to UFO reality, then there is arguably good reason for cover-ups and secrecy. Most humans simply can't handle UFOs. But we can, can't we?

Off we go, into the wild black and blue yonder...

CLASSIFIED UNDOES

IF THE GOVERNMENT REALLY IS SUPPRESSING UFO REALITY, SKEPTICS ASK, THEN WHY HAVEN'T ANYONE LET THE COSMIC CAT OUT OF THE BAG?

ANSWER: THE CAT IS LOOSE, AND IT'S BEEN ON THE PROWL FOR A LONG TIME. AS WE'LL SOON SEE!



THE AMAZING PHENOMENON REPORTED IS SOMETHING REAL AND NOT VISIONARY OR FICTITIOUS.



GEN. NATHAN TWINING, CHIEF OF STAFF, U.S. AIR FORCE, IN HIS AIR MATERIEL COMMAND REPORT, 23 SEPTEMBER 1947

THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICE OF THE 509TH DOWNGROUND GROUP AT ROSWELL ARMY AIR FIELD, NEW MEXICO, HAS COME INTO POSSESSION OF A CRASHED FLYING DISK.



LT. COL. WALTER HAUT, BASE PRESS OFFICER, (OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE 8 JULY 1947; LATER RETRACTED.)

THE WRECKAGE WAS STREWN OVER AN AREA THREE-QUARTERS OF A MILE LONG. WE REALLY COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT IT WAS.



MAJOR JESSE MARCEL, U.S. ARMY INTELLIGENCE, ROSWELL, WHO CLAIMED THE RETRACTION OF HAUT'S PRESS RELEASE WAS PART OF A "COVER STORY"

I MUST INSIST UPON FULL ACCESS TO DISCS RECOVERED. THE ARMY GRABBED ONE AND WOULD NOT LET US HAVE IT FOR EVEN A CURSORY EXAMINATION.



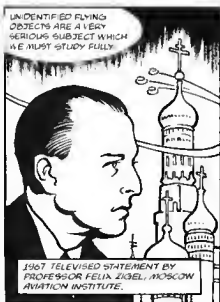
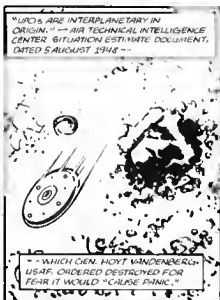
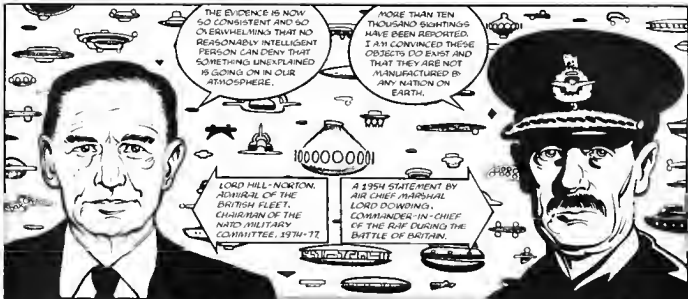
HANDWRITTEN MEMO FROM FBI DIRECTOR J. EDGAR HOOVER, 15 JULY 1947 (ALTHOUGH HE MAY HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO A HOAXED DISC).

PILOTS HAVE REVEALED CASES WHEN A UFO WOULD FLY RIGHT OFF THEIR PLANE'S WING.



HIGHLY SECRET GOVERNMENT UFO INVESTIGATIONS ARE GOING ON THAT WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT.

SENATOR BARRY GOLDWATER WHO FURTHER CLAIMS HE WAS DENIED ACCESS TO "THE BLUE ROOM" AT WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, WHERE UFO ARTIFACTS ARE ALLEGEDLY STORED UNDER EXTREMELY TIGHT SECURITY.



FOR THE LAST SIX MONTHS WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING OFFICIAL SECRECY CONCERNING PROOF THAT UFOs ARE REAL MACHINES UNDER INTELLIGENT CONTROL.



MAJOR DONALD KEYHOE DURING A LIVE CBS BROADCAST, 1958. ALTHOUGH HIS AUDIO WAS CUT OFF MID-STATEMENT FOR "REASONS OF NATIONAL SECURITY."

BEHIND THE SCENES HIGH-RANKING AIR FORCE OFFICERS ARE SOBERLY CONCERNED, BUT THROUGH OFFICIAL SECRECY AND RIDICULE, CITIZENS ARE LED TO BELIEVE UFOs ARE NONSENSE.



REAR ADMIRAL ROSCOE HILLEBRAND, JR. DIRECTOR OF CEA 1947-52

UFOs DO EXIST ARE VERY REAL, AND ARE SPACESHIPS FROM ANOTHER OR MORE THAN ONE OTHER SOLAR SYSTEM!



PROFESSOR HERMANN OBERTH, FORMER GERMAN ROCKET SCIENTIST AND "FATHER OF AMERICAN SPACE TRAVEL."

IT SEEMED TO MOVE TOWARD US THEN PARTLY AWAY. THEN RETURN THEN DEPART. IT WAS BLuish REDDISH, AND LUMINOUS.



UFO SIGHTING REPORT, 1965, BY THEN-GOVERNOR JIMMY CARTER

THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT IF THE EARTH FACED AN INVASION BY EXTRATERRESTRIALS, THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION WOULD JOIN FORCES TO REPEL IT.

YEP, THAT'S WHAT I SAID — AT LEAST THREE TIMES!



MIKHAIL GORBACHEV AND UFO — WITNESS RONALD REAGAN AT THE GENEVA SUMMIT, 1985

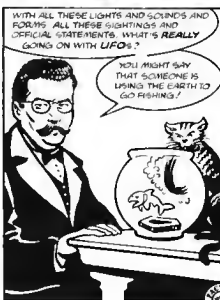
WE DEAL NOW NOT WITH THINGS OF THIS WORLD ALONE BUT WITH ULTIMATE CONFLICT BETWEEN A UNITED HUMAN RACE AND THE SINISTER FORCES OF SOME OTHER GALAXY.

GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR, IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT, 1962



WITH ALL THESE LIGHTS AND SOUNDS AND FORMS, ALL THESE SIGHTINGS AND OFFICIAL STATEMENTS, WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON WITH UFOs?

YOU MIGHT SAY THAT SOMEONE IS USING THE EARTH TO GO FISHING!



THE BIZARRE
IS NOTHING NEW IN
NEW GUINEA



BACK IN 1959
FOR EXAMPLE, THERE WERE
79 MAJOR UFO INCIDENTS IN THE
PAPUA AREA ALONE — BUT
NONE WEIRDER THAN
THE 80

UNCONVINCED BY ALL THE UFO REPORTS,
THE REVEREND WILLIAM GILL, HEAD
OF PAPUA'S BOIANAI MISSION, SAID
SO IN A JUNE 26, 1959 LETTER TO
A FRIEND: "MY SIMPLE MIND STILL
REQUIRES SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE
BEFORE I CAN ACCEPT THE
OUTER-SPACE THEORY."



THE NEW GUINEA SYNCHRONICITY

SIGNING THE LETTER "DOUBTING
WILLIAM," GILL STEPPED OUTSIDE
(AT 6:45 PM) TO LOOK FOR
VENUS — WHICH HE FOUND NEAR
A SECOND "VERY BRIGHT AND
SPARKLING LIGHT... DESCENDING
TOWARD THE MISSION."



WITHIN MOMENTS, REVEREND GILL
WAS STARING POINT-BLANK AT A
"CABRIOLET FLYING SAUCER" WITH
FOUR HUMANOID FIGURES MOVING
ABOUT ON ITS TOP DECK — FROM
WHICH INTERMITTENT "BLUE BEAMS"
SHOT SKYWARD



CALLING OUT IN EXCITEMENT, GILL
WAS JOINED BY MISSION STAFF
MEMBERS STEPHEN MOI, ERIC
LANGFORD AND OTHERS — SOME OF
WHOM CLAIMED TO SEE "PORTHOLE"
AROUND THE HOVERING OBJECT

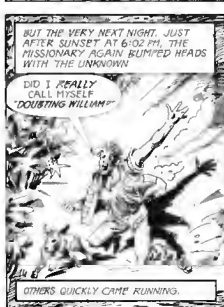


AT 7:30 PM, PERHAPS SUMMONED BY
THE BLUE BEAM, SEVERAL SMALLER
(OR MORE DISTANT) DISKS APPEARED
AROUND THE MAIN UFO — "SATELLITES,"
GILL SUGGESTED, OF THE "MOTHER SHIP"



LASTING MORE THAN FOUR HOURS, THE
SPECTACULAR MULTIPLE-WITNESS SIGHTING
ENDED ONLY WHEN THE OBJECTS DRIFTED
OFF AND DISAPPEARED INTO THE
OVERCAST SKY.

BUT THE VERY NEXT NIGHT, JUST
AFTER SUNSET AT 6:02 PM, THE
MISSIONARY AGAIN BUMPED HEADS
WITH THE UNKNOWN



DID I REALLY
CALL MYSELF
"DOUBTING WILLIAM?"

OTHERS QUICKLY CAME RUNNING.

IN ALL, 38 WITNESSES SIGNED SWORN TESTIMONY THAT WHEN REVEREND GILL RAISED AN ARM TO WAVE, ONE OF THE UFO HUMANOIDS WAVED RIGHT BACK!

SOON, EVERYONE ON THE GROUND WAS SHOUTING AND WAVING, AND ALTHOUGH NO SOUND EVER CAME FROM THE UFO, ALL FOUR HUMANOIDS RETURNED THE WAVES



REVEREND GILL LATER WROTE: "TWO SMALLER UFOS WERE SEEN AT THE SAME TIME, ON THE LARGE ONE, TWO OF THE FIGURES SEEMED TO BE DOING SOMETHING IN THE CENTER OF THE DECK, ADJUSTING OR SETTING UP SOMETHING"

WHEN REVEREND GILL TRIED 'SIGNALLING WITH A TORCH' (A FLASHLIGHT), THE UFO RESPONDED BY SWINGING BACK AND FORTH IN A 'PENDULUM MOTION'



AT 6:30, GILL AND THE OTHERS WENT OFF TO DINNER—AND WHEN THEY RETURNED A HALF HOUR LATER, THE UFO WAS JUST A DISTANT SPECK

SKEPTICS FOUND IT INCREDIBLE THAT DINNER COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN A FLYING SAUCER, TO WHICH GILL RESPONDED: "WE WERE A BIT FED UP THAT THEY WOULDN'T COME DOWN AFTER ALL THE WAVING"



AT 10:40 PM, GILL WAS LITERALLY SHAKEN OUT OF BED BY A TREMENDOUS EXPLOSION RIGHT OUTSIDE THE MISSION—



--ALTHOUGH "NO LIGHTNING WAS SEEN"

TO THE SAME FRIEND HE'D WRITTEN THE NIGHT BEFORE, GILL NOW WROTE: "YESTERDAY I EXPRESSED OPINIONS RE: THE UFOS. NOW, I HAVE CHANGED MY VIEWS. THERE IS NO DOUBT WHATSOEVER THAT UFOS ARE HANDLED BY BEINGS OF SOME KIND."

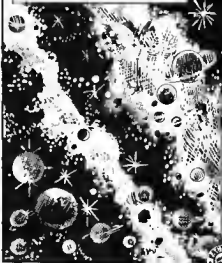


GILL DESCRIBED HIS ENCOUNTER AS "ABSOLUTELY BREATHTAKING"—AND THIS TIME, INSTEAD OF "DOUBTING WILLIAM," HE SIGNED OFF

CHEERS,
CONVINCED BILL



AND SOMEWHERE, NO DOUBT, THE COSMIC TRICKSTER SNICKERED



WITHOUT
EVEN COMMENTING ON
GHOST PORTRAITS, VAGUE
OR HAZY BY DEFINITION,
WE CAN UNCONDITIONALLY
GUARANTEE--

The Best PHOTOS

Are
Always

BLURRY

...BLURRY...
...BLURRY...
...BLURRY...

--AND THE
'EVEN BETTER'
PHOTOS ARE
(ALMOST)
ALWAYS
FAKES

LET'S
LOOK AT A
FEW EXAMPLES
OF EACH

'IF THE McMinnville, OREGON PHOTOS
OF MAY 11, 1950 ARE WIDELY REGARDED
AS THE BEST EARLY EVIDENCE FOR
FLYING SAUCER REALITY, WHY ARE
THEY SO TEASINGLY BLURRY?'

WHY DOES THE 1952 BARRA DE TIJUCA
DAYLIGHT DISC REMAIN SO FRUSTRAT-
INGLY INCONCLUSIVE--EVEN WHEN
ENHANCED?

WERE ITS
ET PILOTS
SIMPLY TOO
SECRETIVE OR
SHY TO PROPERLY
POSE?

AND WHAT'S WITH THIS MID-'50s
OFFICIAL AIR FORCE SHOT OF THE
'PHOENIX, ARIZONA CRESCENT'?

THIS 1957 SHOT OF A B-47 WAS
TAKEN BY A PILOT WHO DIDN'T SEE
THE 'SURVEILLANCE UFO' UNTIL
THE PHOTO WAS DEVELOPED--
A HUGE EMBARRASSMENT
FOR THE AIR FORCE

WAS IT AN OBJECT
FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION
THAT COULD NOT BE CLEARLY
PHOTOGRAPHED IN OUR REALITY?

THOUGH CLEAR WHEN BLOWN UP, THE
UFO IMAGE REMAINS JUST VAGUE ENOUGH
TO BE EXPLAINED AWAY AS A LENS OR FILM FLAW

THE BRAZILIAN NAVY PHOTOGRAPHED
THIS SATURN-SHAPED OBJECT NEAR
TRINDADE ISLAND IN 1958



IS IT A SUNDGOL OR SOME OTHER
MIRAGE WHICH ONLY LOOKS SOLID
ON FILM?



THE ZACK HAMILTON BIGFOOT
PHOTO IS A CLASSIC BLURRY SHOT



BUT FOR ALL WE KNOW, IT COULD BE A
FUGITIVE CHIMP ESCAPED FROM SOME ZOO

THE 1967 ROGER PATTERSON
BLUFF CREEK FILM REMAINS
THE BEST EVIDENCE FOR
BIGFOOT'S ELUSIVE
EXISTENCE.



IT'S
BEEN CALLED
"SHOCKINGLY
CONVINCING,"
BUT IT'S STILL
SHORT OF
IRREFUTABLE
"PROOF."

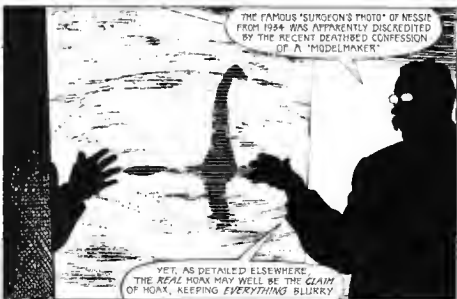
"THIS 1976 'NESSIE' PHOTO IS CLEAR--



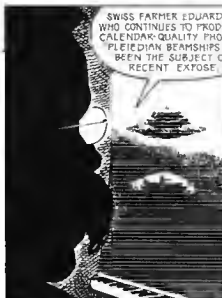
THE FAMOUS "SURGEON'S PHOTO" OF NESSIE
FROM 1934 WAS APPARENTLY DISCREDITED
BY THE RECENT DEATHBED CONFESSION
OF A "MODELMAKER"

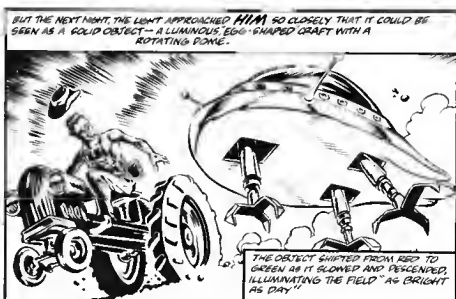
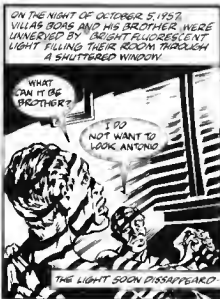


— CLEARLY SIMILAR
TO BRONTOSAURUS MODELS
SOLD IN MUSEUM
GIFT SHOPS.



YET, AS DETAILED ELSEWHERE,
THE REAL HOAX MAY WELL BE THE CLAIM
OF HOAX, KEEPING EVERYTHING BLURRY





THIS TIME IT WAS THE FARMER WHO TRIED TO FLEE—ONLY TO HAVE HIS TRACTOR GO DEAD.



ALTHOUGH VILLAS BOAS WAS NOT AWARE OF IT, STALLED VEHICLES AND OTHER ELECTROMAGNETIC EFFECTS ARE COMMON FEATURES OF UFO REPORTS.

LEAPING FROM HIS TRACTOR TO ESCAPE ON FOOT, VILLAS BOAS WAS SEIZED BY A SMALL FIGURE IN A STRANGE GRAY SUIT AND A HELMET.



BUT WAS QUICKLY OVERWHELMED BY THREE OTHER BEINGS WHO HELPED THE FIRST DRAG VILLAS BOAS ABOARD THE NOW LANDED CRAFT VIA A FLEXIBLE METAL LADDER.



INSIDE A METALLIC, OVAL-SHAPED ROOM, VILLAS BOAS "CURSED WITH LOUD TELL'S" AS HIS ABDUCTORS FORCIBLY STRIPPED HIM.



SOMEHOW SUBDUED (THIS POINT IS VAGUE), VILLAS BOAS THEN ENDURED A SENSIBLE BATH OF "CLEAR, THICK LIQUID" WHICH SWIFTLY EVAPORATED FROM HIS NAKED SKIN.



HE LATER SURMISED THAT IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOME SORT OF APHRODISIAC.

HE WAS THEN TAKEN INTO A DIFFERENT, "SQUARE ROOM WHERE HE SAT ON A 'STRANGELY HUMPED COUCH' WHILE 'SMALL RUBBER PIPES' WERE USED TO EXTRACT BLOOD SAMPLES FROM HIS CHIN.



60

FIRST "THE GROWLS THAT CAME FROM HER NEARLY SPOILED EVERYTHING AS THEY GAVE ME THE IMPRESSION OF LYING WITH AN ANIMAL."



AND SECOND, THERE WAS NO KISSING, ALTHOUGH THE WOMAN DID NIBBLE HIS CHIN (A SPACE VAMPIRESS ENJOYING "TRACES OF BLOOD FROM THE SAMPLE EXTRACT?")

WHEN SHE'D HAD ENOUGH, THE WOMAN POINTED AT HER BELLY, SMILED NEIRDLY, THEN POINTED STRAIGHT UP--WHICH VILLAS BOAS INEXPLICABLY INTERPRETED AS "I'LL BE BACK FOR YOU."



MORE PUNISHABLE "UP THERE, MAN, IS WHERE I'M GONNA HAVE YOUR HYBRID BABY."

VILLAS BOAS NEVERTHELESS PERSEVERED AND PERFORMED WELL ENOUGH FOR A SECOND ROUND, AFTER WHICH HIS SPACE MATE COLLECTED SPERM SAMPLES-- "APPARENTLY FOR FREEZING."



AFTER THE WOMAN LEFT, THE OTHER BEINGS RETURNED AND ALLOWED VILLAS BOAS TO PRESS THEN GAVE HIM A "TOUR" OF THE CRAFT.



KNOWING HIS STORY WOULD NEVER BE BELIEVED, HE ATTEMPTED TO SECURE PROOF-- BUT WAS STOPPED FROM FILCHING A SOUVENIR "CLOCK-LIKE DEVICE."

DUMPED BACK IN HIS FIELD, VILLAS BOAS WATCHED THE LUMINOUS CRAFT SLOWLY RISE, DONE SPINNING AND LANDING GEAR RETRACTING.



AT AN ALTITUDE OF SOME 30 METERS, IT BRIEFLY MOVED, SHIFTING FROM GREEN TO RED AS ITS ROTATION ACCELERATED TREMENDOUSLY--

-- THEN IT SHOT OFF ACROSS THE SKY "LIKE A BULLET."



MORE THAN FOUR HOURS HAD PASSED.

IN THE AFTERMATH OF HIS EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCE, VILLAS BOAS WAS PLAGUED WITH MALAISE-FATIGUE, NAUSEA, NIGHTMARES, AND STRANGE VIOLET SORES ON HIS BODY.



AFTER A MONTH, HE CONTACTED JOURNALIST JOAO MARTINS AND DR. OLAVO FONTES, WHO NOTED SMALL SCARS ON THE PRO-FESSED ABDUCTEE'S CHIN AND DIAG-NOSSED HIM AS SUFFERING FROM MILD RADIATION SICKNESS.



MARTINS AND FONTES WERE BOTH IMPRESSED BY THE YOUNG FARMER'S EMBARRASSED SINCERITY AND NEITHER COULD SHAKE OR FAULT HIS STORY-NOR COULD THEY HELP.

ALTHOUGH ADVISED HE COULD SELL HIS WILD TALE TO THE POPULAR PRESS, VILLAS BOAS INSTEAD RETURNED TO HIS FARM, NEVER SEEKING TO PROFIT FROM HIS ONE-NIGHT STAND WITH THE SUCCURUS FROM SPACE.



INDEED, WHEN HE FINALLY BROKE HIS SILENCE 23 YEARS LATER, IT WAS ONLY TO EXPRESS REGRETMENT AT THE TREATMENT HE HAD RECEIVED-INCLUDING THE ULTIMATE LOW OF STARRING IN A FRENCH COMIC STRIP.



BY 1980, VILLAS BOAS HAD UNDERGONE A STARTLING TRANSFORMATION FROM POOR BACHELOR FARMER TO MARRIED ATTORNEY AND FATHER OF FOUR (KNOWN) CHILDREN. WHEN ASKED HOW SHE'D FEEL IF HER HUSBAND HAD MORE DISTANT OFFSPRING, ANTONIO'S WIFE REPLIED:



RATHER PROUD.

AT FIRST, CONTEMPORARY RESEARCHERS SELF-CENSORED THE NOW-QUAINT STORY FOR BEING TOO WILD AND IMPROBABLE EVEN FOR THE UFO FIELD.



BUT SEEDS HAD BEEN SOWN FOR IN-CREASINGLY MORE SQUARE ACCOUNTS TO BE REAPED IN THE FUTURE.

IN ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF MIX-AND-MATCH PHENOMENA—A SPLICING OF MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE AND UFO—WE LEARN THAT NO ALL ABDUCTEES RETURN, AND THAT SOME ALLEGED ABDUCTIONS INVOLVE MORE THAN JUST A PERSON

SOMETIMES THINGS LIKE CARS, OR EVEN AN AIRPLANE CAN DISAPPEAR, AS IN THE CHILLING CASE OF—

NASA DEPUTY PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR ALBERT M. CHOP CATEGORICALLY STATED "WE ARE BEING WATCHED BY BEINGS FROM OUTER SPACE"



THE VALENTICH VANISHING



WHICH BRINGS US TO THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 21, 1978 WHEN 20-YEAR OLD PILOT FREDERICK VALENTICH PREPARED FOR A SOLO FLIGHT FROM MOORABBIN AIRPORT IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA ACROSS BASS STRAIT—



WHERE YOU OFF TO FREDERICK?

KING ISLAND TO COLLECT SOME CRAYFISH FOR THE AIR TRAINING CORPS OFFICERS—BE BACK BY 10:00!

EVEN THOUGH HIS BLUE AND WHITE CESSNA 182 WAS CONSIDERED A "HIGHLY RELIABLE WORKHORSE" AND WEATHER CONDITIONS FAVORED AN "IDEAL NIGHT FOR FLYING"—



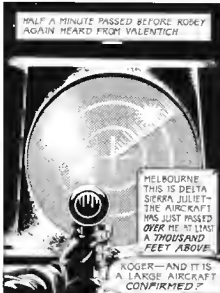
—HIS PLANNED FOUR-HOUR ROUND TRIP, BEGUN AT 6:19 PM, WOULD NEVER BE COMPLETED

THE FOLLOWING SIX-MINUTE RADIO EXCHANGE FROM A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THE ACTUAL TAPE, BEGAN AT 7:06 PM WHEN STEVE KERRY OF GROUND CONTROL FIRST HEARD FROM THE CESSNA, TAGGED "DELTA SIERRA JULIET"

MELBOURNE, THIS IS DELTA SIERRA JULIET IS THERE ANY KNOWN TRAFFIC BELOW FIVE THOUSAND FEET?

DELTA SIERRA JULIET NO KNOWN TRAFFIC





NO RESPONSE FOR
FIFTEEN SECONDS THEN

MELBOURNE, IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S
STATIONARY WHAT I'M DOING RIGHT NOW
IS ORBITING AND THE THING IS JUST
ORBITING ON TOP OF ME **ALSO**

IT'S GOT A
GREEN LIGHT AND
SORT OF **METALLIC**
LIKE IT'S ALL
SHINY ON THE
OUTSIDE

THEN AT
7:10 AND 46 SECONDS
VALENTICH REPORTED

IT'S JUST
VANISHED!

MELBOURNE, WOULD YOU KNOW
WHAT KIND OF AIRCRAFT I'VE GOT?
IS IT A **MILITARY AIRCRAFT**?

DELTA, SIERRA JULIET
CONFIRM THE ER
AIRCRAFT JUST **VANISHED**

IT'S
NOW APPROACHING
FROM THE
SOUTHWEST

THE ENGINE IS **ROUGH-IDLING**
I'VE GOT IT SET AT **TWENTY-THREE**
TWENTY-FOUR AND THE THING IS
COUGHING

MY INTENTIONS ARE
AH... TO GO TO **KING ISLAND**...
AH... MELBOURNE --

ROGER --
WHAT ARE YOUR
INTENTIONS?

THAT STRANGE AIRCRAFT
IS **HOVERING ON TOP OF ME**
AGAIN -- IT IS **HOVERING**
AND IT IS **NOT AN AIRCRAFT**

DELTA
SIERRA
JULIET --

MELBOURNE --

GRRRRRRR

YEOW!

AND THAT WAS VALENTICH'S LAST WORD
CUT OFF AS HIS OPEN MICROPHONE
TRANSMITTED A 17 SECOND BURST OF
LOUD 'METALLIC' NOISE, ENDLESSLY ANA-
LYZED BUT UNEXPLAINED TO THIS DAY

THE NOISE, HOWEVER, DOES SUGGEST THE SAME KIND OF ELECTROMAGNETIC INTERFERENCE SO OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH STALLED CAR ENGINES DURING UFO ENCOUNTERS

WAS FREDERICK VALENTICH THE VICTIM OF AN AWESOME, EVEN HORRIFYING UFO ABDUCTION — PLANE AND ALL?

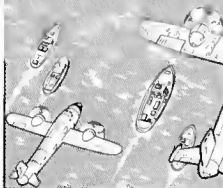
WHATEVER THE PILOT'S ACTUAL FATE, FLIGHT CONTROLLER KOBEY STATED THAT BY THE END OF THE TRANSMISSIONS

— HE WAS DEFINITELY CONCERNED FOR HIS SAFETY



DESPITE AN EXTENDED AIR/SEA SEARCH AT THE TIME — AND REPEATED DIVING EXPEDITIONS SINCE — NO TRACE OF PILOT OR PLANE HAS EVER BEEN FOUND

AS IT HAPPENS, 1978 FEATURED ONE OF THE MOST SPECTACULAR "UFO FLAPS" IN AUSTRALIAN HISTORY, ONGOING FOR SOME THREE MONTHS PRIOR TO VALENTICH'S PATEFUL FLIGHT--



--AND WITH THE HIGHEST CONCENTRATION OF SIGHTINGS COMING FROM THE SAME BASS STRAIT VICINITY

INDEED, CORROBORATION OF HIGH STRANGENESS ON THE VERY NIGHT OF THE VALENTICH FLIGHT IS MANIFOLD, INCLUDING SEVERAL PHOTOS SNAPPED BY ROY MANIFOLD--

SHOWING UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS KIPPING FROM THE SURFACE OF BASS STRAIT AT SUNSET JUST MINUTES BEFORE VALENTICH'S FIRST RADIO TRANSMISSION



THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE SAID THE PHOTOS DEPICT A CUMULUS CLOUD

BUT WITH SUNSET MEASURING THE TIME SEQUENCE OF THE MANIFOLD PHOTOS, THE ALLEGED CLOUD WOULD HAVE BEEN MOVING AT 200 MPH — IN CONDITIONS OF 'LIGHT SEA BREEZES'



IN ANY CASE, AT LEAST TWENTY OTHER WITNESSES AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS AROUND BASS STRAIT REPORTED A LUMINOUS GREEN OBJECT AT THE SAME TIME VALENTICH WAS DESCRIBING HIS OWN GREEN LIGHT ENCOUNTER.

ANOTHER UFO REPORT? IS EVERYONE DRUNK TONIGHT?

MELBOURNE POLICE

ONE OF THE MORE BIZARRE REPORTS CAME FROM A BANK MANAGER AND HIS WIFE, WHO DESCRIBED A MYSTERIOUS GREEN OBJECT IN THE SHAPE OF A STARFISH.

BACK IN 1920, WHEN A SCHOONER DISAPPEARED IN BASS STRAIT, OTHER SHIPS REPORTED 'LARGE FLARES'. CAPTAIN J. STUT AND SGT. A. G. DALZIEL PROMPTLY FLEW TO THE AREA.

LIKE VALENTICH AND HIS CESSNA, THEY AND THEIR PLANE WERE NEVER SEEN AGAIN, NOR WAS THE SCHOONER. ALTHOUGH MANY HAVE SINCE SEEN THE 'FLARES'.

RESPONDING TO REPORTS OF AERIAL LIGHTS IN THE SUMMER OF 1942, A ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE PILOT WATCHED A "SHINING BRONZE" UFO WITH A "PLEXIGLASS CANOPY" BURST FROM THE CLOUDS AND PLUNGE INTO BASS STRAIT.

YOW

AND IN FEBRUARY 1944 (STILL MORE THAN 50 YEARS PRIOR TO THE VALENTICH INCIDENT), A BATTLESHIP SUFFERED LOSS OF RADIO AND NAVIGATION WHEN A UFO TACED IT AT 100 FEET FOR TWENTY MINUTES ABOVE BASS STRAIT.

-- BEFORE
BLOWING AWAY
AT
"TREMENDOUS
SPEED"

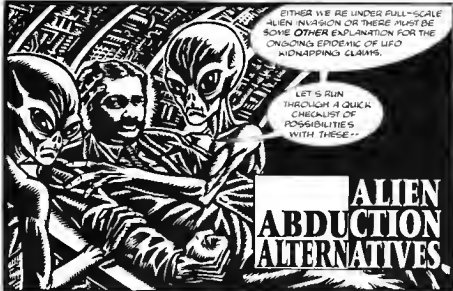
COMMENTING ON OTHER PLANES WHICH DISAPPEARED WITHOUT TRACE IN THE SAME VICINITY DURING WORLD WAR II, AUSTRALIAN RESEARCHER BILL CHALKER POINTS OUT:

THE BASS STRAIT AREA WAS NOT LINKED TO ANY SIGNIFICANT ENEMY ACTIVITY.

AT LEAST NOT
KNOWN ENEMIES

BUT WHETHER OR NOT BASS STRAIT IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S 'WINDOWS' ON THE WEIRD, THE FREDERICH VALENTICH CASE REMAINS ONE OF THE MOST SHOCKING AND TRAGIC UFO INCIDENTS ON RECORD.

- WITH
NO SOLUTION
IN NORMAL
SIGHT



SCREEN MEMORIES—INDUCED TO HIDE
THE REALITY OF GOVERNMENT MIND
CONTROL EXPERIMENTS

ARE YOU
REALLY...UNCLE
SAM?

TRUTH: HEY, ANYTHING'S POSSIBLE
WITH THE CIA

SEXUAL FANTASIES.

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
DOWN
THERE?!

WEAKNESS: FEW ABDUCTEES HAVE
BEEN TURNED ON BY THE COLDLY
INTRUSIVE ALIEN "GYNECOLOGICAL
PROCEDURES"

FLASHBACKS OF PAST MEDICAL
PROCEDURES

YOWTCH!

PROBLEM: THE "MEDICAL EXAM"
COMPRISES ONLY ONE ELEMENT
OF THE COMPLEX AND EXTENDED
ABDUCTION EXPERIENCE

RELIGIOUS ECSTASY OR VISIONS

GLORY
Hallelujah!
AMEN!

ILLOGICAL, ALTHOUGH
THEY MAY COME
FROM HEAVEN, UFO
ABDUCTORS ARE
OFTEN MORE
DEMONIC THAN
ANGELIC—AND
MANY OF THEIR
VICTIMS ARE NOT
AT ALL RELIGIOUS.

(CONFABULATION—INDUCED BY A
HYPNOTIST'S BELIEFS (AND LEADING
QUESTIONS))

THEY REALLY ABUSED
YOU, DIDN'T
THEY?

FLAW: MOST ABDUCTEES EXPERIENCE
CONSCIOUS RECALL **BEFORE** CONSULT-
ING A HYPNOTIST, WHILE MANY NEVER
UNDERGO HYPNOSIS

HOAX—FOR FAME
AND FORTUNE

MOOHAA!
THOSE
TABLOIDS
SURE PAY
A BUNDLE!

TRUTH: VERY FEW ABDUCTEES EVER
SEEK TO PROFIT FROM THEIR EXPERIENCES,
AND MOST AVOID PUBLICITY OF ANY KIND

REAL ABDUCTIONS, JUST AS DESCRIBED—
BY CUNNING WIDNAPPERS FROM BEYOND

2ELAN BABE—
WE'RE NOT
REALLY
HAPPENING

YEAH
WE'RE ALL IN
YOUR MIND,
TOOTS.

COUNTER-ARGUMENT: IT SIMPLY **CAN'T** BE TRUE! SO
SLEEP TIGHT—AND DON'T LET THE BEDBUGS BITE...

WE'VE ALL SEEN MAINSTREAM MEDIA'S PORTRAIT OF THE TYPICAL UFO WITNESS—A WHITE-TRASH DRUNKEN DOOFUS FROM SOME TRAILER PARK ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF HICKSVILLE.

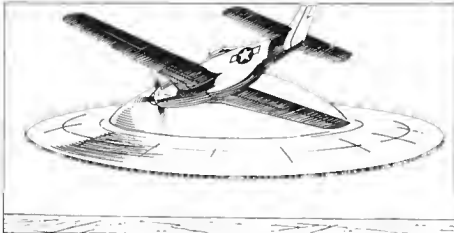
ACTUAL EYEWITNESSES, HOWEVER, INCLUDE SOBER AND RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE.

RIGHT NOW, LET'S FOCUS ON SOME POSSIBLE ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN—



THE ASTRONAUTS AND THE ALIENS

"BUT AS SOON AS I GOT BEHIND THE DARN THING IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE A BALLOON ANYMORE. IT LOOKED LIKE A SAUCER, A DISK. I TRACKED IT A LITTLE WAY AND THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN THE DAMN THING PULLED A 45-DEGREE TURN AND JUST FLAT DISAPPEARED."



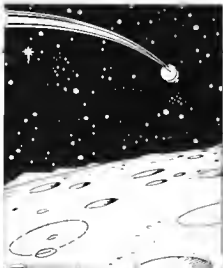
AFTER REPORTING THIS TO INTELLIGENCE, SLAYTON SAID, "I NEVER HEARD ANYTHING MORE ON IT."

FINALLY, APOLLO 8 ASTRONAUT JAMES LOVELL BROKE THE SILENCE WITH A CRYPTIC COMMENT FROM ONE WORLD TO ANOTHER:



HOUSTON, WE'VE JUST BEEN TOLD SANTA CLAUS EXISTS.

MEDICAL MONITORS SHOWED A DRASTIC AND ABRUPT JUMP IN LOVELL'S PULSE RATE.



BACK IN 1951, FUTURE ASTRONAUT DONALD "DEKE" SLAYTON CHASED SOMETHING WHILE TEST-PILOTING A P-51 NEAR MINNEAPOLIS.



LOOKS LIKE A WEATHER BALLOON.

SEVENTEEN YEARS LATER, HOUSTON MISSION CONTROL DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING EITHER...FOR SIX AGONIZING MINUTES.



APOLLO ARE YOU THERE?

IT WAS CHRISTMAS DAY, 1968

GORDON COOPER HAS STATED THAT WHILE MOST ASTRONAUTS ARE UNDERSTANDABLY RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT...



SEVERAL OF US DO BELIEVE IN UFOS.

THE FACT THAT MANY EXPERIENCED PILOTS HAVE REPORTED STRANGE SIGHTS WAS ONE OF THE REASONS I WANTED TO BECOME AN ASTRONAUT.

"I DID HAVE TWO DAYS OF OBSERVATION OF MANY FLIGHTS OF (UFOS), OF DIFFERENT SIZES, FLYING IN FIGHTER FORMATION, GENERALLY FROM EAST TO WEST OVER EUROPE."



SINCE COOPER'S SIGHTINGS OCCURRED IN PRE-ASTRONAUT 1951 - THE SAME YEAR DEKE SLAYTON CHASED A DISK OVER MINNEAPOLIS - WE PONDER A CHILLING QUESTION...

WAS THE "RIGHT STUFF" IMPLANTED IN THESE FLYBOYS?



FOLLOWING ATTENDANCE AT A 1978 UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON UFOS, COOPER WROTE: "I BELIEVE THAT THESE EXTRATERRESTRIAL VEHICLES AND THEIR CREWS ARE VISITING THIS PLANET FROM OTHER PLANETS."



JULY 21, 1969: WHEN MAN FIRST LANDED ON THE MOON - IN THE PERSONS OF APOLLO 11 ASTRONAUTS NEIL ARMSTRONG AND BUZZ ALDRIN - MAN MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ALONE. BEFORE COMMUNICATION WAS INEXPLICABLY GARBLED, ONE OF THE ASTRONAUTS MADE REFERENCE TO "A LIGHT" IN OR FROM A CRATER.



WHEN MISSION CONTROL (HARDLY A SEA OF TRANQUILITY AT THIS POINT) REQUESTED MORE INFORMATION, THE ONLY RESPONSE WAS A CACOPHONY OF WHISLES AND ODD MECHANICAL SOUNDS, PROMPTING THE QUESTION:

APOLLO, DO YOU HAVE ANY COMPANY UP THERE?



THE ANSWER WAS AN EMPHATIC BUT SECRET YES, ACCORDING TO FORMER NASA EMPLOYEE OTTO BINDER, WHO QUOTED THIS SECURE-CHANNEL TRANSMISSION:



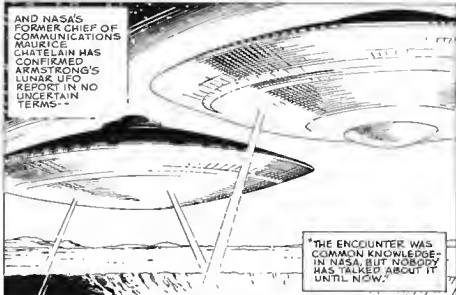
THESE BABIES ARE HUGE, SIR. ENORMOUS! OH GOD, YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT! I'M TELLING YOU THERE ARE OTHER SPACECRAFT OUT THERE... LINED UP ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE CRATER EDGE...

THEY'RE ON THE MOON WATCHING US!

WHILE THE ALLEGED TRANSMISSION MAY WELL BE BOGUS, NASA'S CHIEF OF PUBLIC INFORMATION JOHN MCLEASH ADMITS THAT SOME ASTRONAUT CONVERSATIONS ARE NEVER RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC.

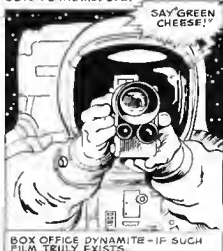
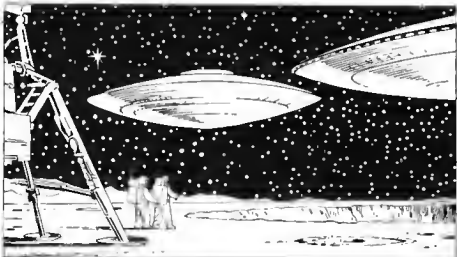


AND NASA'S FORMER CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS MAURICE CHATELAIN HAS CONFIRMED ARMSTRONG'S LUNAR UFO REPORT IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS--



FURTHER CONFIRMATION CAME FROM SOVIET PHYSICIST DR. VLADIM AZHARHA--ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, THE ENCOUNTER WAS REPORTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE LANDING OF THE MODULE...BUT WAS NEVER HEARD BY THE PUBLIC--BECAUSE NASA CENSORED IT.

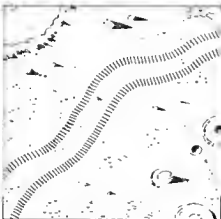
ANOTHER SOVIET, DR. ALEKSANDR KAZANTSEV, CLAIMS BUZZ ALDRIN CAPTURED THE UFO'S ON COLOR MOVIE FILM FROM BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE MODULE.



DR. GLENN SEABORG, THEN PRESIDENT OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, ALLEGEDLY REVEALED IN DECEMBER, 1969 THAT APOLLO II HAD DISCOVERED "SUSPICIOUS TRACKS" ON THE LUNAR SURFACE--

A YEAR EARLIER, DURING APOLLO 8'S FIRST MANNED ORBIT OF THE MOON, BEAMS OF LIGHT WERE SEEN SHINING FROM MOUNT PICKERING.

MAURICE CHATELAIN COMES RIGHT OUT WITH IT. "ALL APOLLO AND GEMINI FLIGHTS WERE FOLLOWED, BOTH AT A DISTANCE AND SOMETIMES QUITE CLOSELY, BY SPACE VEHICLES OF EXTRATERRESTRIAL ORIGIN."



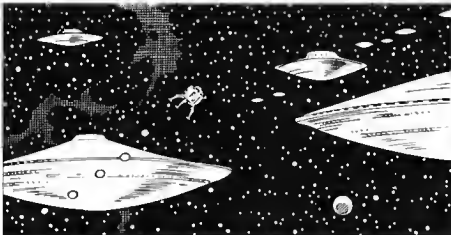
--CLEAR EVIDENCE OF AN UNKNOWN VEHICLE.



A LANDING BEACON FOR SANTA CLAUS?



AS QUOTED BY RESEARCHER TIMOTHY GOOD, "AN ANONYMOUS SOURCE WITH SECRET CLEARANCE" CLAIMED SCOTT CARPENTER TOLD HIM THAT "AT NO TIME" WERE THE ASTRONAUTS ALONE IN SPACE.



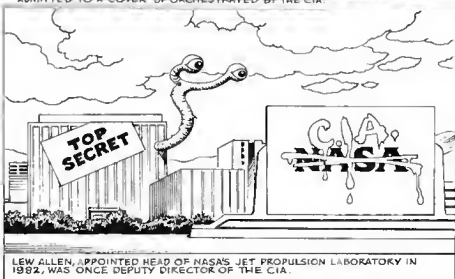
ACCORDING TO DR. GARRY HENDERSON OF GENERAL DYNAMICS, WHILE NASA "HAS MANY ACTUAL PHOTOS" OF E.T. CRAFT "TAKEN AT CLOSE RANGE," THE ASTRONAUTS HAVE BEEN SWORN TO A STRICT POLICY OF SILENCE.



PUBLICLY, NEIL ARMSTRONG HAS THIS TO SAY:



BUT THE ANONYMOUS PROFESSOR INSISTS THAT ARMSTRONG LATER ADMITTED TO A COVER UP ORCHESTRATED BY THE CIA.



LEW ALLEN, APPOINTED HEAD OF NASA'S JET PROPULSION LABORATORY IN 1982, WAS ONCE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE CIA.

THIS POLICY WAS ALLEGEDLY BROKEN BY NEIL ARMSTRONG HIMSELF IN CONVERSATION WITH AN UNNAMED PROFESSOR:



SOMEONE ELSE MAY HAVE TRIED TO SILENCE APOLLO 17 ASTRONAUT EUGENE CERMAN AND HARRISON SCHMITT WHEN THEIR LUNAR ROVERS HIGH-GAIN ANTENNA EXPLODED.



SOMETHING FLYING OVER JUST BEFORE IT'S STILL -

GOD! I THOUGHT WE'D BEEN HIT BY A -- LOOK AT THAT STUFF!

LATER, AT A 1973 PRESS CONFERENCE, CERMAN RATHER CRYPTICALLY REMARKED:

I'M ONE OF THOSE GUYS WHO HAS NEVER SEEN A UFO, BUT I'VE BEEN ASKED -- AND I'VE SAID PUBLICLY I THOUGHT THEY WERE SOMEBODY ELSE, SOME OTHER CIVILIZATION.



THE AMERICANS AND THE SOVIETS BOTH ENDED THEIR MOON PROGRAMS WITHIN A SIX-MONTH SPAN IN 1972-73 -- THE USA WITH APOLLO 17 AND THE USSR WITH LUNAKHOD 2...



CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER WHY...

WRITERS BRAD STEIGER AND SCOTT CORRALES POINT OUT THAT BEFORE ALL CONTACT WITH LUNAKHOD 2 WAS MYSTERIOUSLY LOST, THE PROBE HAD EXAMINED A HIGHLY UNUSUAL LUNAR FEATURE NEAR THE TAURUS MOUNTAINS.



A SMOOTH SLAB OF PRESUMED ROCK WHICH RESEMBLED A MODERN HOUSE PANEL -- IT WAS ALSO REMINISCENT OF THE ALIEN MONOLITH FROM CLARKE AND KUBRICK'S 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY

SAID MONOLITH, YOU MAY RECALL, WAS THE TRIGGER FOR CONVERTING INNOCENT APE TO EVOLVED MAN --



THAT'S IT. EARTHLING TOUCH THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT

WHILE A SECOND MONOLITH ON THE MOON TRANSFORMED TECHNOLOGICAL MAN INTO CHILD OF THE COSMOS.



FINALLY READY FOR THE APPLE'S SECOND BITE?

WAS 2001 PRESIDENT? DID LIFE IMITATE ART? OR, CONTRARY TO MOVIE OPTIMISM, WAS THE REAL-LIFE SLAB SOME SORT OF COSMIC VENDING MACHINE WE REALLY WERE FORBIDDEN TO TOUCH?

BARELY NOTICED AMIDST 1994'S MORE IMPORTANT NEWS, NASA RESUMED ITS MOON PROGRAM WITH AN UNMANNED PROBE NAMED "CLEMANTINE."

HEY IF BANK TELLERS CAN BE REPLACED BY CASH MACHINES, WHY NOT ASTRONAUTS BY ROBOTS?



AS RESEARCHER GEORGE ANDREWS POINTS OUT, CLEMENTINE'S PRICETAG (NEARLY HALF THE BUDGET OF WATER-WORLD) SHOULD HAVE CAUGHT OUR ATTENTION--AND YET OUR RETURN TO THE MOON MIGHT AS WELL BE A SECRET.

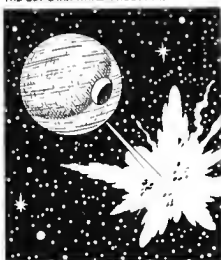


BUT WHY ARE WE GOING BACK NOW--SO LONG AFTER WE WERE SUPPOSEDLY "WARNED OFF?"

HAS THE DANGER PASSED--OR HAVE WE LOST OUR FEAR?



THE ANSWER MAY LIE IN THE NATURE OF CLEMENTINE'S MISSION--TO TEST "DEFENSIVE HARDWARE" SPUN OFF FROM THE SDI "STAR WARS" PROGRAM.



OR ARE WE FINALLY READY TO EVICT THE MOON'S PRESENT TENANTS?

MAYBE SO--BUT IT MAY BE WISE TO REMEMBER THE WORDS OF THAT OLD SONG--



OH M'DARLIN CLEMENTINE, YOU ARE LOST AND GONE FOREVER, PREAMFUL SORRY CLEMENTINE.

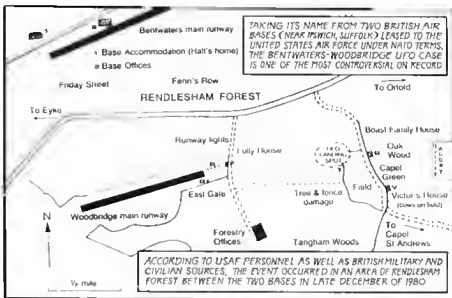
INDEED, BEFORE CLEMENTINE COULD COMPLETE HER MISSION, ALL CONTACT WAS LOST WHEN SHE FELL INTO A USELESS SOLAR ORBIT--

--VICTIMIZED EITHER BY NASA INCOMPETENCE--OR BY LUNAR FORCES STILL MORE THAN A MATCH FOR ANY TRESPASSER!



TO HELL WITH DAMNED SCIENCE AND FULL SPEED AHEAD. AS WE IMMERSE OURSELVES IN THE

WATERS OF BENT REALITY



THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT, AS REPORTED BY RESEARCHERS JENNY RANGLES, TIMOTHY GOOD, RAYMOND BOECHE, AND LAWRENCE FAWCETT, IS PIECED TOGETHER FROM THE STATEMENTS OF SOME THIRTY PROFFESSED WITNESSES



WHILE THE PRECISE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS IS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE (AND MAY INVOLVE TWO SEPARATE NIGHTS), THE INCIDENT BEGAN WHEN TWO USAF SECURITY MEN AT WOODBRIDGE SPOTTED UNUSUAL LIGHTS OVER RENDLESHAM



ASSUMED TO BE A SMALL PLANE, THE LIGHTS SEEMED TO CRASH



ACCORDING TO SERGEANT LARRY WARREN, STATIONED AT BENTWATERS, "IT LOOKED LIKE A FIRE IN THE FOREST"

LED BY WOODBRIDGE DEPUTY BASE COMMANDER LT. COL. CHARLES HALT, THREE USAF PERSONNEL ENTERED THE FOREST FOR A CAT-AND-MOUSE GAME WITH A WEIRDLY ELUSIVE RED LIGHT



BRITISH SQUADRON LEADER (AT BENTWATERS) DONALD MORELAND ADMITTED THE REALITY OF THE CHASE, BUT INITIALLY DOWNPLAYED IT AS "A FEW LIGHTS FLIPPING AMONG THE TREES"

OTHERS WHO JOINED THE HUNT, HOWEVER, WERE FAR LESS DISMISSIVE OF THE ENSUING AND SPECTACULAR "EXPLOSION OF LIGHT"

AIRMAN JOHN BURKHOUGH SAID: "IT WAS INCREDIBLE. YOU CAN NEVER EXPLAIN TO ANY BODY ELSE THE TRUE AWE OF WHAT IT WAS LIKE"





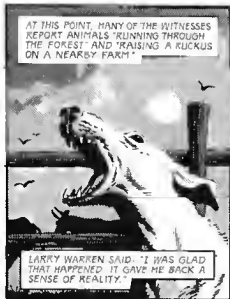
THE "IT" IN QUESTION HAD ABRUPTLY BECOME A "TRIANGULAR" UFO, ACCORDING TO AIRMEN 'STEVE ROBERTS' AND 'JAMES ARCHER', WITH A RED LIGHT ON TOP AND BLUE AND WHITE LIGHTS AT MIDDLE AND BOTTOM.

'ARCHER' WAS CERTAIN SOMETHING WAS INSIDE FURTHER CLAIMING 'THE SHAPES DID NOT LOOK HUMAN'.



MEANWHILE SGTS LARRY WARREN AND ADRIAN BUSTINZA HAD ROLLED TO AN EERIE HALT WHEN THEIR JEEP AND SEVERAL HIGH-POWERED 'LIGHT-ALLS' ABRUPTLY DIED.

BUSTINZA LATER SAID IT WAS KIND OF LIKE ALL THE ENERGY WAS DRAINED OUT.



AT THIS POINT, MANY OF THE WITNESSES REPORT ANIMALS 'RUNNING THROUGH THE FOREST' AND 'RAISING A KUCKUS ON A NEARBY FARM'.

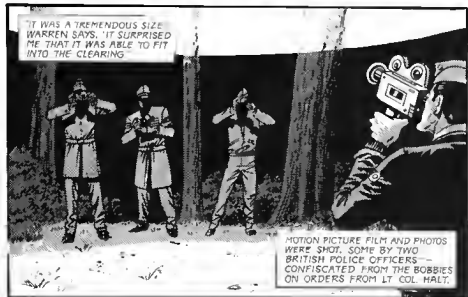
LARRY WARREN SAID, 'I WAS GLAD THAT HAPPENED. IT GAVE ME BACK A SENSE OF REALITY.'



EN ROUTE TO JOINING THE OTHER SEARCHERS, WARREN AND BUSTINZA ENCOUNTERED A STRANGE YELLOW MIST 'LIKE NOTHING (RED) EVER SEEN BEFORE.'



ENTERING A CLEARING, THEY FOUND AN OBJECT 'SUDDENLY' JUST THERE— BUT THE "TRIANGULAR" UFO WAS NOW A "TRANSPARENT ASPIRIN TABLET FILLED WITH 'BRIGHT PULSATING MIST AND ADORNED WITH 'RAINBOW LIGHTS'.



'IT WAS A TREMENDOUS SIZE WARREN SAYS, 'IT SURPRISED ME THAT IT WAS ABLE TO FIT INTO THE CLEARING'.

MOTION PICTURE FILM AND PHOTOS WERE SHOT, SOME BY TWO BRITISH POLICE OFFICERS— CONFISCATED FROM THE BOBBIES ON ORDERS FROM LT COL. HALT.



BUSTINZA AND HALT BOTH CLAIM THAT ALL PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDS OF THE EVENT WERE LATER FLOWN TO USAF EUROPEAN HQ AT RAMSTEIN, WEST GERMANY.

A PENTAGON OFFICIAL ADMITTED IN MARCH 1969 THAT 'SOME OF THESE PHOTOS, BUT NOT ALL WERE FOGGED'.

BACK IN THE CLEARING, A RED LIGHT APPROACHED AND THE "ASPIRIN TABLET" ABRUPTLY VANISHED



LEAVING AN INTRICATELY TEXTURED DOMED DISC RESTING ON TRIPOD LEGS

(THE NEXT DAY, LT. COL. HALT AND OTHER USAF INVESTIGATORS FOUND THREE INDENTATIONS IN THE CLEARING, EACH SLIGHTLY RADIOACTIVE.)



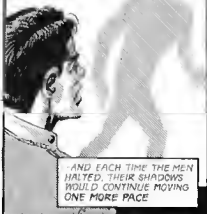
(FRESHLY DAMAGED TREES WERE ALSO DISCOVERED.)

WARREN AND OTHERS WERE FASCINATED BY THEIR WEIRDLY WARPED SHADOWS AS THEY WALKED AROUND THE MYSTERY OBJECT



A STRANGE BALL OF LIGHT APPEARED ABOVE THE HEAD OF ONE SHADOW, THEN MOVED TO EACH OF THE OTHER SHADOWS "LIKE SOMETHING IN A VIDEO GAME"

MOST BIZARRE OF ALL WAS THE FACT THAT THE SHADOWS WERE SOMEHOW "OUT OF PHASE" --



AND EACH TIME THE MEN HALTED, THEIR SHADOWS WOULD CONTINUE MOVING ONE MORE PACE

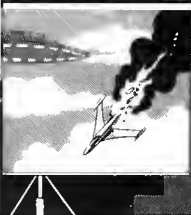
HIS OWN "TIME-TRAVELING SHADOW" WAS THE LAST THING LARRY WARREN REMEMBERED BEFORE WAKING UP IN HIS BAR-RACKS BED THE NEXT MORNING CAKED IN MUD UP TO THE KNEES



WARREN SAYS HE WAS TESTED FOR RADIATION AND FORCED TO SIGN A SECRECY OATH--OBVIOUSLY SINCE BROKEN



HE AND OTHERS WERE THEN SHOWN HIGH-QUALITY GUN CAMERA FILM OF UFO EVENTS INCLUDING THE DOWNING OF A SOVIET MIG FIGHTER BY A CLASSIC FLYING SAUCER





WARREN'S 'MISSING TIME' OF THE NIGHT BEFORE IS FILLED IN BY OTHER WITNESSES WHO SAY THEY WERE ORDERED TO FORM A 'PERIMETER' AROUND THE OBJECT AT 15' FOOT INTERVALS



BASE COMMANDER COL GORDON WILLIAMS THEN ARRIVED AND 'COMMUNICATED' WITH THREE SILVER SUITED BEINGS SUSPENDED IN A SHAFT OF LIGHT EMANATING FROM THE DISC

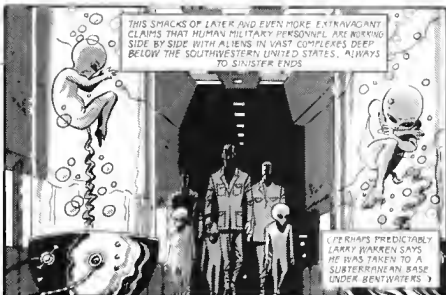


AS DESCRIBED AND SKETCHED, THE BEINGS WERE IDENTICAL TO THE FAMILIAR 'GRAYS' OF ABDUCTION LOGS



ALTHOUGH COL WILLIAMS DENIES HIS PRESENCE OTHERS SWEAR TO IT

ADDING THAT USAF PERSONNEL THEN ASSISTED THE BEINGS IN MAKING REPAIRS TO THEIR CRAFT!!



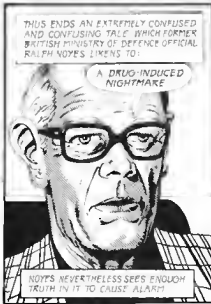
THIS SHACKS OF LATER AND EVEN MORE EXTRAVAGANT CLAIMS THAT HUMAN MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE WORKING SIDE BY SIDE WITH ALIENS IN VAST COMPLEXES DEEP BELOW THE SOUTHWESTERN UNITED STATES, ALWAYS TO SINISTER ENDS

(PERHAPS PREDICTABLY LARRY WARREN SAYS HE WAS TAKEN TO A SUBTERRANEAN BASE UNDER BENTWATERS)



IN ANY CASE THE ENCOUNTER IN KENDLESHAM CONCLUDED AFTER SOME 30 MINUTES TO AN HOUR WHEN THE OBJECT WAS 'GONE IN A FLASH'

LEAVING ONLY 'A COLD BLAST OF WIND WHICH BLEW FOR FIVE OR TEN SECONDS', AND, IF WE BELIEVE THE WITNESSES, MORE THAN THIRTY SKULLS CRAMMED WITH NIGHTMARES



THIS ENDS AN EXTREMELY CONFUSED AND CONFUSING TALE WHICH FORMER BRITISH MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OFFICIAL RALPH NOYES LIKENS TO:

A DRUG-INDUCED NIGHTMARE

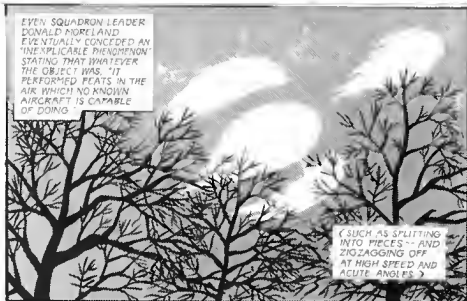
NOYES NEVERTHELESS SEES ENOUGH TRUTH IN IT TO CAUSE ALARM

OFFICIAL REACTION TO THE BENTWATERS WOODBRIDGE EVENT AMOUNTED TO THE STANDARD 'NO THREAT TO NATIONAL DEFENSE' POSITION

'LITTER NONSENSE, AS BOTH NOYES AND JENNY RANGLES POINT OUT IF THE COLLECTIVE TESTIMONY IS ACCURATE, THEREBY CONFIRMING UFO REALITY



EVEN SQUADRON LEADER DONALD MORELAND EVENTUALLY CONCEDED AN 'INEXPLICABLE PHENOMENON' STATING THAT WHATEVER THE OBJECT WAS, 'IT PERFORMED FEATS IN THE AIR WHICH NO KNOWN AIRCRAFT IS CAPABLE OF DOING



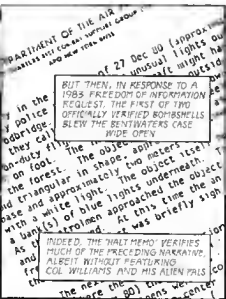
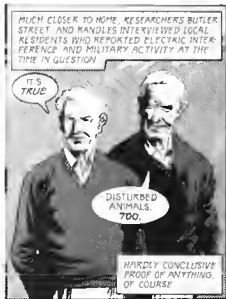
(SUCH AS SPLITTING INTO PIECES-- AND ZIGZAGGING OFF AT HIGH SPEED AND ACUTE ANGLES)

MUCH CLOSER TO HOME, RESEARCHERS BUTLER STREET AND RANGLES INTERVIEWED LOCAL RESIDENTS WHO REPORTED ELECTRIC INTERFERENCE AND MILITARY ACTIVITY AT THE TIME IN QUESTION

IT'S TRUE

DISTURBED ANIMALS, TOO.

HARDLY CONCLUSIVE PROOF OF ANYTHING, OF COURSE



BUT THEN, IN RESPONSE TO A 1985 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST, THE FIRST OF TWO OFFICIALLY VERIFIED BOMBHELLS BLEW THE BENTWATERS CASE WIDE OPEN

INDEED, THE 'WALT MEMO' VERIFIES MUCH OF THE PRECEDING NARRATIVE, ALBEIT WITHOUT FEATURING COL WILLIAMS AND HIS ALIEN PAL

...AND EQUAL NONSENSE IF THE TESTIMONY IS FALSE, THEREBY ENTRUSTING NATO SECURITY TO THE WHIMS OF HALLUCINATING MADMEN



BEAM US UP GHOULIES!

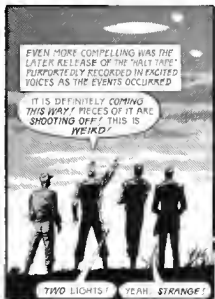
EITHER ALTERNATIVE, OF COURSE, CONSTITUTES A SEVERE THREAT TO SECURITY

SINCE THIS WAS CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE BRITISH SCIENCE WRITER IAN KIDPATH SAVED THE DAY BY BLAMING THE WHOLE MESS ON OXFORD NESS-- A LIGHTHOUSE FIVE MILES AWAY ON THE SUFFOLK COAST

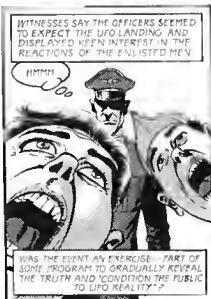
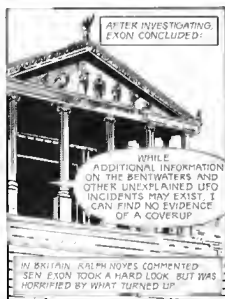
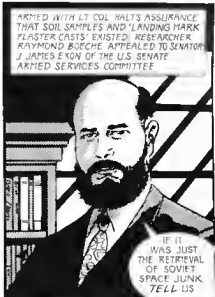
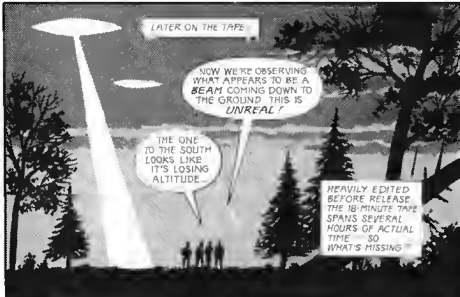


EVEN MORE COMPELLING WAS THE LATER RELEASE OF THE 'WALT TAPE' PURPORTEDLY RECORDED IN EXCITED VOICES AS THE EVENTS OCCURRED

IT IS DEFINITELY COMING THIS WAY! PIECES OF IT ARE SHOOTING OFF! THIS IS WEIRD!



TWO LIGHTS! YEAH, STRANGE!





THE CULTURE OF THE MAYA MYSTERIOUSLY VANISHED LONG BEFORE THE PREDICTED DEATH OF THE FOURTH SUN IN 1519. THEY HAD ALSO PROPHESED AN ENSUING FIFTH SUN OF "DARKNESS AND IGNORANCE."



FOLLOWING CORTES' CONQUEST OF THE POST-MAYAN AZTEC EMPIRE IN 1519, VAST KNOWLEDGE WAS LOST WHEN VIRTUALLY ALL AZTEC AND MAYAN ILLUMINATED (OR ILLUSTRATED) RECORDS WERE DESTROYED.

ONE OF THE FEW SURVIVING MAYAN DOCUMENTS — THE "DRESDE CODEX" OF 755 A.D. — FORETOLD THAT THE DEATH OF THE FIFTH SUN AND BIRTH OF THE SIXTH SUN WOULD HERALD "EARTH CHANGES" AND "COSMIC AWARENESS" CREATED BY ENCOUNTERS WITH "THE MASTERS OF THE STARS."



ON JULY 11, 1991 IN MEXICO CITY — THE WORLD'S LARGEST METROPOLIS, BUILT ATOP THE CONQUERED AZTEC CAPITAL OF TENOCHTITLAN — CROWDS GATHERED TO VIEW THE SOLAR ECLIPSE.

ACCORDING TO THE MAYA, THE WORLD UNDERGOES CYCLIC DESTRUCTION AND CREATION, EACH "NEW AGE" LAUNCHED BY THE DEATH AND REBIRTH OF NUMBERED SUNS.



THE DEATH OF THIS FIFTH SUN OF IGNORANCE WAS PINPOINTED BY THE MAYA FOR JULY 11, 1991 — THE DATE OF A RARE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE LASTING SIX MINUTES, 45 SECONDS.

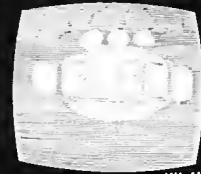


A NUMBER OF THESE MODERN MEXICANS, DESCENDANTS OF THE MAYA AND THE AZTECS WERE EQUIPPED WITH VIDEO CAMCORDERS.



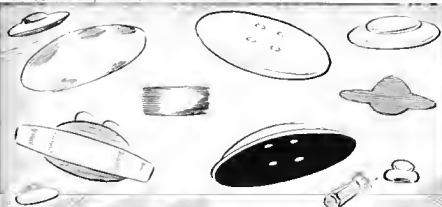
-- ALL POINTED UPWARD.

HISTORY'S LONGEST AND BEST-DOCUMENTED UFO FLAP THIS BEGAN WHEN SEVENTEEN DIFFERENT VIDEOTAPES SHOWED THE SAME UFO HOVERING UNDER THE ECLIPSE (OR "DYING") FIFTH SUN. IT WAS VISIBLE FOR 23 MINUTES.



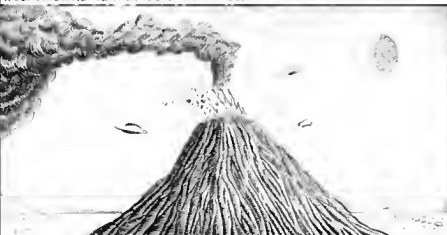
JUL 11
1991

BY 1997, THE MEXICO CITY SIGHTINGS ENCOMPASSED AT LEAST SEVEN DIFFERENT UFO TYPES, LITERALLY MILLIONS OF WITNESSES, THOUSANDS OF VIDEOTAPES, AND HUNDREDS OF HOURS OF FOOTAGE.



FAR FROM FEARFUL (AND PERHAPS SLIPPING INTO "COSMIC AWARENESS") THE MEXICAN PEOPLE SEEM AWED AND DELIGHTED BY THE PERPETUALLY-HOVERING UFO'S.

SINCE 1991, THE "MASTERS OF THE STARS" HAVE BEEN SEEN AND TAPED MOST OFTEN ABOVE MEXICO CITY AND NEARBY MOUNT POPOCATEPETL --



--WHICH TURNED ACTIVE VOLCANO SHORTLY AFTER THE ECLIPSE, AS IF FULFILLING THE PROPHESED "EARTH CHANGES."

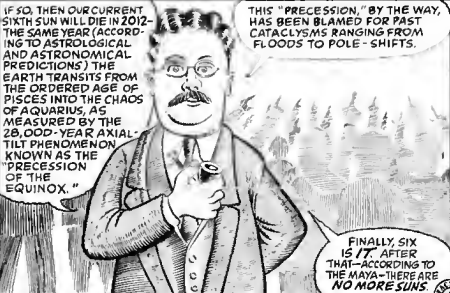
IF THIS IS THE FIRST YOU'VE HEARD OF ALL THIS IT'S NOT SURPRISING. THE WORLDWIDE MAINSTREAM MEDIA HAS LARGELY IGNORED IT.



HOWEVER, JAIME MAUSSAN--A HIGHLY RESPECTED REPORTER ON THE MEXICAN VERSION OF 60 MINUTES--TAKES THE MATTER QUITE SERIOUSLY.



IF SO, THEN OUR CURRENT SIXTH SUN WILL DIE IN 2012--THE SAME YEAR (ACCORDING TO ASTROLOGICAL AND ASTRONOMICAL PREDICTIONS) THE EARTH TRANSITS FROM THE ORDERED AGE OF PISCES INTO THE CHAOS OF AQUARIUS, AS MEASURED BY THE 26,000-YEAR AXIAL-TILT PHENOMENON KNOWN AS THE "PRECESSION OF THE EQUINOX."



AGAIN, IF A GOVERNMENT COVER-UP OF UFO REALITY TRULY EXISTS, WHY HASN'T SOMEONE IN AUTHORITY BLOWN THE WHISTLE BY NOW.

THE FACT IS, LITERALLY HUNDREDS OF WHISTLEBLOWERS HAVE SOUNDED SHRILL ALARMS, THE LATEST COMING FROM BRITAIN'S--



MEET NICK POPE, WHO JOINED THE BRITISH MINISTRY OF DEFENSE IN 1985 AND WAS INVOLVED IN POLICY MAKING DURING THE GULF WAR AND THE BOSNIAN-SERB CONFLICT.

I WAS GENERALLY SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE PARANORMAL.

I DIDN'T BELIEVE IN UFOs.



BUT THEN, IN THE SUMMER OF 1991, POPE WAS APPOINTED TO A NEW POST AT WHITEHALL—SECRETARIAT AIR STAFF, DEPARTMENT 2A--

WHOA—ALL THESE REPORTS FOR ME?



--FAMILIARLY KNOWN AS "THE UFO DESK."

UNTIL THEN, POPE SAYS "MY OPINION OF UFOs WAS BASED ON LITTLE MORE THAN THE MOVIE CLOSE ENCOUNTERS," BUT HE SOON DISCOVERED:

TRUTH REALLY IS MUCH, MUCH STRANGER THAN FICTION! I CAME IN AN OPEN-MINDED SKEPTIC AND ENDED UP A BELIEVER!



INDEED, AFTER SITTING AT THE UFO DESK FOR THREE YEARS, POPE CONCLUDED:

THEY'RE REAL!

IT DOESN'T REQUIRE ANY LEAP OF FAITH—THE EVIDENCE IS HERE NOW!



OFFICIALLY, POPE WAS CHARGED WITH ASCERTAINING WHETHER UFOs POSED A THREAT TO THE U.K.'S DEFENSE—BUT UNOFFICIALLY, HE WAS EXPECTED TO SIMPLY DISMISS THE SIGHTINGS.

TELL THE PUBLIC IT'S NOTHING BUT FALSE ECHOES, RADAR ANGELS, SWAMP GAS, AND THE PLANETS VENUS, MARS AND JUPITER.



IT WAS WHEN HE BUCKED THE SYSTEM, POINTING OUT THE DANGEROUSLY DUBIOUS WISDOM OF SUCH POLICY, THAT POPE FIRST GOT INTO TROUBLE.

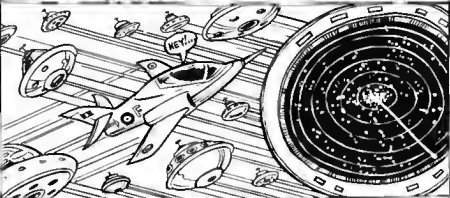
I TOOK THE VIEW THAT YOU COULDN'T MAKE A VALID JUDGMENT UNTIL YOU'D MADE SOME REAL AND SUBSTANTIAL EFFORT TO FIND OUT WHAT THE PHENOMENON WAS!



POPE SAYS HE BECAME
"A BIT OF A MAVERICK, A
LOOSE CANNON WITHIN THE
DEPARTMENT, VIEWED WITH
A MIXTURE OF SUSPICION
AND DISTRUST."



NEVERTHELESS, POPE STUCK TO HIS CANNONS: "WHEN YOU
ADDED TOGETHER ALL THE EYEWITNESS TESTIMONY—
RELIABLE STUFF FROM PILOTS, MILITARY PERSONNEL,
AND POLICE OFFICERS—WITH ALL THE PHOTOS, VIDEOS,
RADAR TAPES, RADIATION TRACES--



-- THEY MADE FOR A REALLY CONVINCING CASE, AS FAR AS
I WAS CONCERNED."

POPE'S FELLOW M.O.D.
WORKERS BEGAN HUMMING
THE TWILIGHT ZONE
THEME IN HIS PRESENCE—
AND AFTER THE X-FILES
DEBUTED, HE ACQUIRED A
NEW NICKNAME...



EVENTUALLY, POPE SAYS, "I GOT DRAWN INTO VARIOUS OTHER
ACTIVITIES. BECAUSE I DID UFOS, I GOT QUITE A BIT
ABOUT CROP CIRCLES, AND EVEN THE ODD GHOST STORY."



BUT POPE'S PRIMARY
CONCERN REMAINED UFOS:
"ON THE BASIS OF THE
EXTRAORDINARY CASES I'VE
SEEN, I'VE COME DOWN ON
THE SIDE OF THE EXTRA-
TERRESTRIAL HYPOTHESIS."



"I DO THINK THAT THE REAL
UFOS ARE EXTRATERRESTRIAL
SPACECRAFT—AND THAT HAS
MADE ME VERY UNPOPULAR."

FURTHERMORE, POPE FEELS THESE CRAFT CONSTITUTE
"A POTENTIAL THREAT—AND THAT MAKES ME VERY
WORRIED."



HE SAYS: "YOU'VE GOT TO FIGURE THAT IF A CRAFT SLIPS
THROUGH YOUR DEFENSIVE SCREEN OF RADAR AND AIR
DEFENSE FIGHTERS, ITS TECHNOLOGY IS PROBABLY
BEYOND YOURS."

POPE ALSO SAID, "I HAD A 'DEEP THROAT' CHARACTER, A SYMPATHIZER I COULD DISCUSS THINGS WITH."

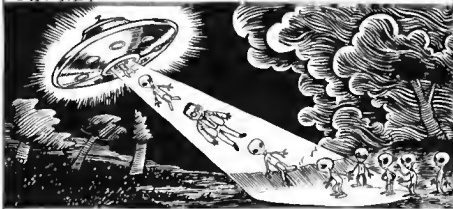


"SOMEONE IN A SENIOR POSITION? LET'S JUST SAY HE WAS WELL-PLACED ENOUGH TO DISCUSS THE MORE INTERESTING OPTIONS."

POPE'S TOUR OF WEIRD DUTY CAME TO AN END IN THE SUMMER OF 1994, WHEN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE PROMOTED HIM TO A FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.



POPE CONTINUES INVESTIGATING UFO ACTIVITY, HE CONCEDES "PARTIALLY TO EXPLAIN SOME ANOMALOUS EVENTS IN MY OWN PAST—"



"...EVENTS WHICH THE UFO LOBBY WOULD SAY ARE FACTORS PRESENT IN CASES OF ABDUCTION, BUT I WANT TO STAY ON THE FENCE UNTIL I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO ME."

WHILE POPE SEES THE BRITISH "COVER-UP" AS ONE OF BLINDNESS RATHER THAN SECRECY, HE'S NOT SO SURE ABOUT THE UNITED STATES: "I KNOW THE CONSPIRACY THEORISTS SAY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS UP TO ITS EYEBALLS IN CRASHED SAUCERS AND ALIENS--"



"—BUT IT'S NOT A WORLD ON WHICH I HAVE ANY WINDOW. UNFORTUNATELY, I COULDN'T GET ACCESS TO ANY AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS, ALTHOUGH I DID TRY."

"I HAD MIXED FEELINGS—BUT AN AWFUL LOT OF PEOPLE WERE GLAD TO SEE THE BACK OF ME, I CAN TELL YOU!"



INDEED—BUT FOR ALL HIS CANDOR, POPE IS PRESUMABLY STILL BOUND BY BRITAIN'S OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT, MAKING ONE WONDER WHAT HE HASN'T SAID!

IN ANY CASE, SUCH IS THE STRANGE (IF PARTIAL) STORY OF NICK POPE—REAL-LIFE GOVERNMENT COUNTERPART TO A "PARANOID" CHARACTER ON A "TOTALLY FICTIONAL" TV SHOW.



IN THE MEANTIME, POPE'S FINAL WORDS REMAIN RELATIVELY CONSERVATIVE:



DESPITE WHAT SOME PEOPLE MAY SAY, THERE IS A THREAT!

IF WE COUNT CAVE PAINTINGS, THEN UFO REPORTS ARE OLDER THAN HISTORY ITSELF — THE SAME PHENOMENON PERCEIVED FOR MILLENNIA, YET DESCRIBED DIFFERENTLY

WHY CAN'T WE AGREE ON THE NATURE OF THESE MYSTERIOUS AERIAL OBJECTS? THE ANSWER MAY LIE IN THE--



TO METEOROLOGISTS, UFOs ARE NOTHING BUT LENTICULAR CLOUDS, THE AURORA BOREALIS BALL LIGHTNING, IONIZED PLASMA, OR 'THERMAL INVERSIONS'

TRUST ME—I'M A TV WEATHER PERSONALITY!

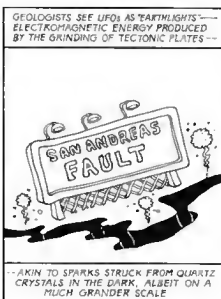
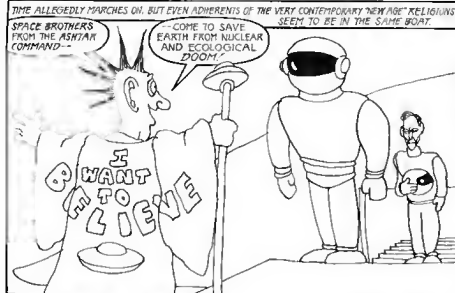


PRE-BIBLICAL OR 'PRIMITIVE' CULTURES MAY HAVE INTERPRETED UFOs AND THEIR OCCUPANTS AS THE GODS THEMSELVES, DESCENDING FROM HEAVEN



AMATEUR ARCHAEOLOGISTS ERICH VON DANIKEN, ZECHARIA SITCHIN, AND OTHER PROPONENTS OF THE 'ANCIENT ASTRONAUT' THEORY CARRY THIS TORCH RIGHT INTO THE PRESENT, ADDING A TECHNO-ALIEN SPIN BY CONNECTING THESE BELIEFS IN 'GODS' TO MODERN UFO SIGHTINGS





AS FAR AS TABLOID JOURNALISTS ARE CONCERNED, UFOs ARE ELVIS-FATHERING LITTLE GREEN GODS WHO REGULARLY VISIT THE WHITE HOUSE



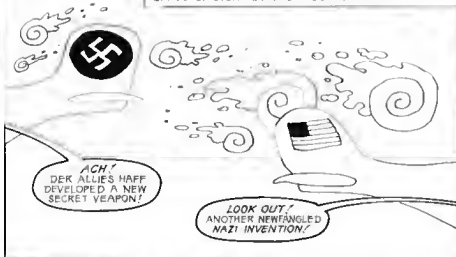
MORE 'RESPECTABLE' JOURNALISTS TREAT UFOs AS OBJECTS OF VIRULENT RIDICULE



TO PIONEERING PSYCHOLOGIST CARL JUNG, UFOs WERE EVIDENCE OF ARCHETYPES — SYMBOLS OF UNCONSCIOUS THOUGHTS AND FANTASIES



FOR BEDEVILED WORLD WAR II PILOTS — ON BOTH SIDES — UFOs CAME IN THE FORM OF MYSTERIOUS BALLS OF LIGHT DUBBED "FOO FIGHTERS"



TODAY'S TECHNO-BUFFS ARE ALSO CONVINCED THAT UFOs ARE ACTUALLY SECRET WEAPONS OF A TERRESTRIAL KIND



BUT THE MODERN MILITARY INSISTS THAT UFOs "CONSTITUTE NO THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY" BUT IS THAT WHAT THEY REALLY THINK? VARIOUS GOVERNMENT AGENCIES HAVE CONTRADICTINGLY DESCRIBED UFOs AS A PHENOMENON THAT IS "NON-EXISTENT" BUT ALSO "OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE"



DOWN-TO-EARTH ASTRONOMERS SEE NOTHING BUT NATURAL OCCURRENCES



TO ANCIENT ROMAN CENTURIONS, FLYING SAUCERS WERE "BURNING SHIELDS STREAKING THROUGH THE SKY"



WHILE, TO CONTEMPORARY SCI-FI GEEKS, THEY ARE BUG-EYED MONSTERS HELMBENT ON WAR-OF-THE-WORLD CONQUEST.



PARANOID CONSPIRACY THEORISTS (WISE MEN?) SEE UFOs AS PROOF OF SINISTER PLOTS AND COVERT COVER-UPS.



IT'S A COSMIC WATERGATE! THE CATTLE-MUTILATING CIA HAS BEEN IN CAHOOTS WITH THE ZETA RETICULANS FOR DECADES!

INDEED, TO THE CIA, FBI, NSA, ONI, ATD, MI-6, KGB, AND ALL THE OTHER ALPHABET SOUP INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES, UFOs ARE THE SUBJECT OF VOLUMINOUS REPORTS, STUDIES, PROJECTS, DOCUMENTS AND DOSSIERS--



FEW OF WHICH OFFICIALLY EXIST AND NONE OF WHICH HAVE EVER BEEN FULLY DECLASSIFIED-- OFTEN IN OPEN CONTEMPT OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

AS FOR POLITICIANS, THEY SEE UFOs AS NOTHING BUT NO-WIN HOT POTATOES



TO THE SADISTIC (AND USUALLY MISOGYNISTIC) CRETINS IN CHARGE OF HISTORY'S VARIOUS INQUISITIONS AND WITCHHUNTS, UFOs WERE OCCULT PROOF OF STEAMY AFFAIRS WITH THAT SUPERNATURAL STUd NAMED SATAN



GLOOM AND DOOM WORRYWARTS ALARMISTS AND END TIMERS ALWAYS INTERPRET UFOs AS SIGNS OF THE LOOMING APOCALYPSE



THE END NIGH!

TO FOLKLORISTS, 'ALIENS' ARE NOTHING BUT MODERN MYTHS—THE SPACE AGE INCARNATION OF FAIRIES, GOBLINS, GNOMES, TROLLS, BROWNIES, DJINNS, AND ANY NUMBER OF OTHER ENTITIES FROM THE PAST



INDEED, THE WEE FOLK HAVE BEEN ABDUCTING DISORIENTED HUMANS TO OTHERWORLDLY 'FAIRY' RINGS, DISC-LIKE MOUNDS, AND 'UNDERGROUND BASES' FOR CENTURIES

RESEARCHERS OF 'NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCES' SUSPECT ALIEN ENTITIES MAY BE VISITORS FROM THE 'AFTERLIFE'--



POSSIBLY 'ANOTHER DIMENSION' THEY FEEL, IN WHICH 'BEINGS OF LIGHT' MAY RESIDE

IN REMOTE AREAS OF AFRICA, THINGS EMERGING FROM LANDED UFOs ARE THOUGHT TO BE 'SPIRITS OF DEAD ANCESTORS'—WHILE AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES INSIST THEY ARE 'DWELLERS FROM THE DREAMTIME'



WESTERN DREAM RESEARCHERS PEG ALIENS TO BE A RESULT OF HYPNAGOGIC AND HYPNOPOMPIC MENTAL STATES IN WHICH THE HALF-ASLEEP BRAIN HAS SURREAL VISIONS, LIKE THOSE INVOLVING WHAT THEY CALL 'NIGHTMARE HAGS'



FOR SMUGLY SUPERIOR 'SKEPTICS' AND DERUNKERS, UFOs ARE SIMPLY BOKING AND MUNDANE



TO UFO RESEARCHERS PRACTICING HYPNOTHERAPY ON THE SIDE, THE AERIAL OBJECTS ARE CLEARLY MOBILE LABORATORIES CREWED WITH OMNIPOTENT ALIEN ABDUCTORS



TO NO-NOSENSE ENGINEER, THE INERTIA-DEFYING HYPERSONIC PLATTERS REPRESENT EXOTIC TECHNOLOGY, POSING INTERESTING PROPULSION PROBLEMS TO PONDER



FOR SOME QUANTUM PHYSICISTS, UF-FOLK COULD BE OUR OWN DESCENDANTS USING TIME MACHINES TO COME BACK AND VISIT US

QUARKS TRAVEL THROUGH TIME ALL THE TIME!

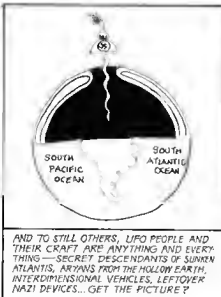


WE ARE YOU — HARVESTING HEALTHY ANCESTRAL DNA TO BREAK THROUGH THE DEAD END TO WHICH WE HAVE EVOLVED IN THE FAR FUTURE!



TO HOLLYWOOD AND THE BOOB TUBE, UFOs AND ALIENS ARE BOFO BOX OFFICE AND BIG-TIME TV

TO THE BLINDERED ROBOTIC EYES OF NASA (RECENT DISCOVERERS OF PROBABLE LIFE ON MARS), UFOs ARE SO FAR BEYOND THE CURRENT LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGY (THE SHUTTLE AND VARIOUS MALFUNCTIONING PROBES) THAT THEY CAN'T POSSIBLY BELIEVE THEY EXIST



AND TO STILL OTHERS, UFO PEOPLE AND THEIR CRAFT ARE ANYTHING AND EVERY THING — SECRET DESCENDANTS OF SUNKEN ATLANTIS, ARIYANS FROM THE HOLLOW EARTH, INTERDIMENSIONAL VEHICLES, LEFTOVER NAZI DEVICES...GET THE PICTURE?

THE LIST GOES ON FOREVER — AS EACH BEHOLDER'S EYE SEES SOMETHING DIFFERENT. AND IF UFOs ARE WHATEVER WE MAKE OF THEM, WE MIGHT AS WELL BE BLIND MEN GROPPING AN ELEPHANT — NEVER DISCOVERING THE TRUTH



YET IN ONE SENSE WE KNOW PRECISELY WHAT UFOs ARE — THEY ARE MIRRORS, REFLECTING EACH BEHOLDER'S INDIVIDUAL BELIEFS AND PERSONAL WORLDVIEW



SO ASK YOURSELF IF AND WHEN YOU ENCOUNTER THE SHINY FACE OF THE UNKNOWN... WHAT WILL YOU SEE?

CHAPTER THREE

IMPOSSIBLE ENTITIES

Much of this chapter may prove only temporarily weird, since many of today's "impossible" cryptozoological creatures could well become tomorrow's "mere" animals. The existence of "living fossils," for example — such as dinosaurs in the Congo — is hardly out of the question. The same holds true for mystery primates like Bigfoot and Yeti — and for aquatic "monsters" like Nessie, whether ultimately identified as plesiosaurs or presently unknown species of giant slugs and eels. But on the other hand, what do we make of Kentucky goblins, Men in Black, Mothman, and the Goatsucker? It is difficult to imagine niches in the natural scheme of things for such bizarre entities. And even Sasquatch and the Loch Ness Monster, for that matter, may prove to be far weirder than most of us can imagine...



CROCODILES HAVE IMPRESSIVELY SURVIVED SINCE THE DAYS OF THE DINOSAURS, BUT THE TUATARA OF NEW ZEALAND ACTUALLY PREDATES DINOSAURS ONE SPECIES WAS NOT EVEN KNOWN UNTIL 1989.



BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.

ALLEGEDLY RESIDING NOT FAR FROM SAUROPOD-SURVIVOR MOKELE-MBEMBE'S AFRICAN STOMPING GROUNDS, THE STEGOSAURUS-LIKE MBIELU-MBIELU-MBIELU IS DESCRIBED AS "ANIMAL WITH PLANKS GROWING FROM ITS BACK"



('STEGOSAURUS' MEANS 'SHINGLED LIZARD.')

PERKISTENTLY REPORTED FOR CENTURIES, PTEROSAUR-LIKE CREATURES SOARING THE TEXAS SKIES COULD WELL ACCOUNT FOR NATIVE AMERICAN 'THUNDERBIRD MYTHS'

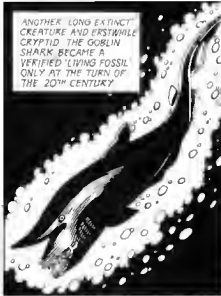


ACTUAL BIRDS — HUGE AND PREDATORY — HAVE BEEN ACCUSED OF SNATCHING LIVESTOCK AND EVEN CHILDREN ALL OVER THE WORLD

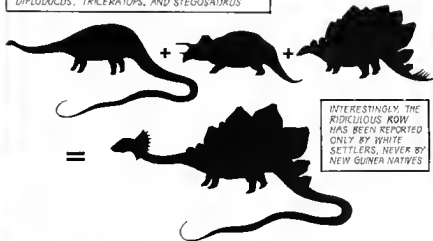
SINCE TODAY'S LARGEST KNOWN BIRD IS THE RELATIVELY PUNY CONDOR, THESE RAPTORS — IF REAL — MAY BE SOME PREHISTORIC SUP'VIVOR, SOMETHING LIKE THIS SPECIMEN OF ARGENTAVIS MAGNIFICENS.



ANOTHER 'LONG EXTINGUISHED' CREATURE AND ERSTWHILE CRYPTID THE GOBLIN SHARK BECAME A VERIFIED 'LIVING FOSSIL' ONLY AT THE TURN OF THE 20TH CENTURY



ONE OF THE LEAST PROBABLE 'PREHISTORIC SURVIVORS' IS THE NEW GUINEA ROW, AN ABSURD AMALGAM OF DIPLODOCUS, TRICERATOPS, AND STEGOSAURUS



INTERESTINGLY, THE RIDICULOUS ROW HAS BEEN REPORTED ONLY BY WHITE SETTLERS, NEVER BY NEW GUINEA NATIVES

FAR MORE PLAUSIBLE ARE SOUTH AMERICAN AND AFRICAN REPORTS OF GIANT AGGRESSIVE SNAKES REACHING LENGTHS OF 100 FEET AND MORE

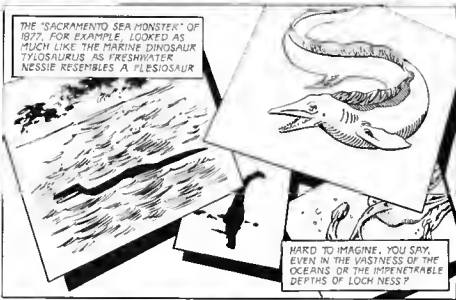


WHEN IT COMES TO AQUATIC SNAKES, SCIENCE IS APPARENTLY UNABLE TO LEARN A LESSON, STILL SCOFFING AT THE THOUSANDS OF "SEA SERPENTS" AND "SEA MONSTERS" REPORTED THROUGHOUT HISTORY



ALTHOUGH MANY OF THESE SIGHTINGS ARE PROBABLE MISIDENTIFICATIONS OF GIANT EELS AND SQUIDS, THE COELACANTH AND GOBLIN SHARK PROVE THAT SOME SEA MONSTERS COULD EASILY BE PREHISTORIC SURVIVORS

THE "SACRAMENTO SEA MONSTER" OF 1877, FOR EXAMPLE, LOOKED AS MUCH LIKE THE MARINE DINOSAUR TYLOSAURUS AS FRESHWATER NESSIE RESEMBLES A PLESIOSAUR



HARD TO IMAGINE, YOU SAY, EVEN IN THE VASTNESS OF THE OCEANS OR THE IMPENETRABLE DEPTHS OF LOCH NESS?

THEN CONSIDER THIS: FOUND AND PHOTOGRAPHED ONLY IN 1992, GIANT ELEPHANTS IN NEPAL MAY REPRESENT SURVIVING STEGODONTIS SUPPOSEDLY LONG EXTINCT



AND BACK IN THE OCEAN, WHILE THE MONSTROUS KRAKEN REMAINS Mired IN MYTH, THE NEARLY IDENTICAL GIANT SQUID IS NOW A FORMER CRYPTID GRADUATING TO SCIENTIFIC LEGITIMACY IN 1849 UNDER THE NAME ARCHITEUTHIS AND MEASURING UP TO SIXTY FEET IN LENGTH



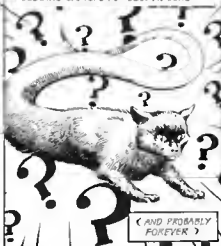
THE LAST THYLACINE (OR "TASMANIAN TIGER WOLF") SUPPOSEDLY DIED IN CAPTIVITY IN 1936, YET SOMETHING VERY SIMILAR IS STUBBORNLY REPORTED (AND FUZZILY PHOTOGRAPHED) IN THE WILD TO THIS VERY DAY.



THE WORLD'S LARGEST BEETLE, THE TITAN LONGHORN, WAS CONSIDERED EXTINCT UNTIL 1900, WHEN A FRESHLY EATEN SPECIMEN WAS DISCOVERED INSIDE THE STOMACH OF A FISH



GETTING WEIRDER, THE 'ALPINE TAILZWOKE' HAS BEEN REPORTED FOR CENTURIES—ELUDING CAPTURE FOR JUST AS LONG



(AND PROBABLY FOREVER)

A BIZARRE 1970s OUTBREAK OF PHANTOM KANGAROOS IN WISCONSIN CAME COMPLETE WITH MULTIPLE EYE-WITNESS REPORTS, VERIFIED FOOTPRINTS AND EVEN BLURRY PHOTOS—BUT NO ZOO ESCAPES



A CLEAR PHOTO OF 'LOYS APE' TAKEN ON THE BORDER OF VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA REPRESENTS EITHER A NEW PRIMATE SPECIES OR A HOAX CREATED BY ALTERING THE CARCASS OF A SPIDER MONKEY



WASHED UP ON A FLORIDA BEACH IN 1896, THE 'ST. AUGUSTINE GLOBSTER' REMAINS ON THE BOOKS AS FIVE TONS OF MYSTERY MUSH—AND THE 'NEW ZEALAND GLOBSTER' OF 1968 WAS EVEN BIGGER AND MESSIER.

WHILE 1988'S EXTREMELY TOUGH 'BERMUDA BLOB' DULLED FOUR PATHOLOGIST KNIVES BEFORE SURRENDERING A FINGER-SIZED SPECIMEN OF STILL-UNIDENTIFIED TISSUE



FINALLY, IF 'YETI' AND 'BIGFOOT' ARE SURVIVING SPECIMENS OF SUPPOSEDLY EXTINCT GIGANTOPITHECUS, AS MANY RESEARCHERS FEEL, IT'S HARDLY SURPRISING THAT THEY AVOID HUMAN CONTACT.



ACCORDING TO ANTHROPOLOGISTS, GIGANTOPITHECUS WAS WIPE OUT BY THE SMALLER BUT MORE AGGRESSIVE PITHECANTROPUS—OUR ANCESTORS

AND YET, IF CRYPTOZOOLOGY'S PAST IS ANY INDICATION, BIGFOOT—AND NESSIE TOO—MAY SOMEDAY SHARE ZOO SPACE WITH THE TAPIR AND THE OKAPI

FRANKLY, I PREFER THEM RIGHT WHERE THEY ARE, LURKING IN THE SHADOWS OF TWILIGHT REALITY, FORCING US TO THINK AND WONDER



THEY UNRECOGNIZED SIM-
IAN SPECIES OR WANDERER
FROM ANOTHER REALM. THE
ELUSIVE BIGFOOT IS NOT AL-
WAYS SHY ABOUT MEETING
OTHERS, AS WITNESSED IN
THIS WILD YARN —



THE

BIGFOOT

SLEEPING
BAG
SNATCH!

MICA MOUNTAIN, BRITISH COLUM-
BIA, 1955: A PROLONGED EN-
COUNTER WITH A FEMALE BIGFOOT
ENDS WHEN WILLIAM ROE CANNOT
SHOOT.

1957

IT'S TOO HUMAN...
I'D NEVER FORGIVE
MYSELF IF I
KILLED IT!



BUT NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS OF
ROE'S EXPERIENCE BROUGHT
FORTH ANOTHER WITNESS, 64-
YEAR-OLD ALBERT OSTMAN...
WHO TOLD THIS AMAZING TALE.

YOU WERE KIDNAPPED AND HELD
CAPTIVE BY A WHOLE FAMILY
OF BIGFEET?

YES, MORE
THIRTY
YEARS
AGO.



OSTMAN'S ACCOUNT OF HIS 1924 ADVENTURE BEGAN WITH THE HIRING
OF AN INDIAN GUIDE TO SEARCH FOR A LOST GOLD MINE NEAR
BRITISH COLUMBIA'S TOBA INLET

THERE ARE MANY
SASQUATCH AROUND
HERE... BIG PEOPLE
WITH HAIR ALL OVER
THEIR BODIES.

DO TELL



HAVING DELIVERED PROSPECTOR
OSTMAN TO THE DESIRED VICINITY,
THE INDIAN GUIDE
DEPARTED...

I WILL COME
FOR YOU IN
THREE WEEKS.

LEAVING
OSTMAN TO
SET UP CAMP
ON HIS OWN.



ON THE SECOND MORNING, OSTMAN
FOUND FOOD MISSING FROM HIS
PACK... EVEN THOUGH IT WAS STILL
HANGING ON A POLE WELL OUT OF
SCAVENGER REACH.

HMPH!



THAT NIGHT, HE GOT INTO HIS
SLEEPING BAG WITH THE
PACK AND HIS RIFLE. DETER-
MINED TO KEEP WATCH...

ZZZZ

BUT HE SOON FELL ASLEEP



OSTMAN WAS JERKED AWAKE WHEN SOMETHING SNATCHED HIM UP LIKE A PUPPY IN A PAPER BAG



AT FIRST HE THOUGHT HE WAS BEING SLUNG OVER THE BACK OF A HORSE -- BUT THEN, HE SAID, 'I COULD FEEL WHOEVER IT WAS, WAS WALKING'



SCRUNCHED IN A BALL, HIS LEGS NUMB AND HIS BACK GOUGED BY HIS PACK OF CANNED GOODS, OSTMAN CLUNG TO THE RIFLE FOR WHAT HE ESTIMATED WAS THREE HOURS --



MUCH OF IT BEING DRAGGED OVER ROUGH TERRAIN

FINALLY HIS ABDUCTOR DUMPED HIM AND BEGAN "CHATTERING" WITH THREE OTHER BEINGS



SH-LUMP!

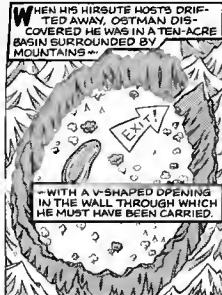
WITH THE WIND KNOCKED OUT OF HIM AND HIS LEGS CRAMPED UP, THE PROSPECTOR CONFRONTED HIS CAPTORS.

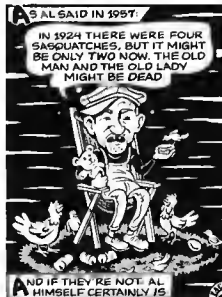


AS DAWN BROKE, OSTMAN REALIZED HE WAS IN THE PRESENCE OF FOUR HAIRY HUMANOIDS -- TWO ADULTS AND TWO "YOUNG ONES," EACH PAIR MALE AND FEMALE



CALLING THEM A "FAMILY," OSTMAN DESCRIBED THE YOUNG ONES AS BEING AFRAID OF HIM, THE ADULT FEMALE "OBVIOUSLY DISPLEASED" WITH HIS PRESENCE, AND THE ADULT MALE "THE ONE I HAD TO WORRY ABOUT."





FOR THIRTEEN PARANORMAL MONTHS IN 1966 AND 1967, THE WEST VIRGINIA TOWN OF POINT PLEASANT WAS ANYTHING BUT

IT WAS, IN FACT, A TIME AND PLACE OF CHILLING WEIRDNESS EARMARKED BY...

THE MOTHMANT VISITATIONS

A QUIET TOWN OF 6,000 IN THE OHIO RIVER VALLEY, POINT PLEASANT BOASTED DOZENS OF CHURCHES BUT NO BARS. SILVER BRIDGE, BUILT IN 1928, SPANNED THE RIVER SEPARATING WEST VIRGINIA FROM OHIO

FORESHADOWING OUR MAIN STORY, A SOCIALLY PROMINENT WEST VIRGINIA WOMAN AND HER FATHER WERE DRIVING ON ROUTE 2 IN 1961...

WHEN THEY CAME UPON WHAT SEEMED TO BE A MAN IN THE ROAD AHEAD

AFTER THE THING 'TOOK OFF STRAIGHT UP,' SHE CONTINUED, "I STEPPED ON THE GAS AND RACED OUT OF THERE. WE WERE BOTH TERRIFIED."

BUT AS THEY DREW CLOSER, THEY SAW A GRAY FIGURE MUCH LARGER THAN A MAN — AND WHEN IT UNFOLDED A PAIR OF WINGS THE WOMAN SAID, "THEY PRACTICALLY FILLED THE WHOLE ROAD

IT ALMOST LOOKED LIKE A SMALL AIRPLANE

SEVERAL YEARS LATER, AN EXCITED SEVEN-YEAR-OLD RAN TO TELL HIS MOTHER

MOMMY, I JUST SAW AN ANGEL — A MAN WITH WINGS!

AND, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE OTHER MID-SIXTIES REPORTS OF "GIANT BIRDS" IN THE AREA, IT WAS ALL HERE PRELUDE — WITH THE REAL STORY SPLASHING IN 1966...

AT 10:30 PM ON NOVEMBER 15, 1966, NEWELL PARTIDGE'S TV ABRUPTLY WENT HAYWIRE. "A HERRINGBONE PATTERN APPEARED," HE SAID, "AND THE SET STARTED A LOUD WHINING NOISE."



AT THE SAME TIME, HIS DOG BANDIT HOWLED OUTSIDE.

WHEN PARTIDGE INVESTIGATED, HIS FLASHLIGHT PICKED UP "TWO RED CIRCLES OR EYES, WHICH LOOKED LIKE BICYCLE REFLECTORS." AND JUST AS THE SIGHT WAS GIVING HIM "COLD CHILLS"—



—HIS DOG SNARLED AND LUNGED FOR THE TWO RED ORBS.

BANDIT! BANDIT, COME BACK HERE!

BUT THE DOG DISOBEYED, AND PROBABLY DIED.



ONE HOUR LATER, NEARBY IN WHAT WAS CALLED THE "TNT AREA"—AN ABANDONED WWII MUNITIONS COMPLEX—A MAN AND HIS WIFE CAME UPON TWO RED-GLOWING SPOTS ATTACHED TO SOMETHING LARGE.

IT WAS SHAPED LIKE A MAN, ROGER SCARBERRY LATER TOLD POLICE, "BUT BIGGER, MAYBE SEVEN FEET TALL."



"IT HAD WINGS FOLDED AGAINST ITS BACK, AND ITS EYES WERE HYPNOTIC. FOR A MINUTE WE COULD ONLY STARE."



GRAY IN COLOR WITH MANLIKE LEGS, BUT NO VISIBLE HEAD (ITS GLOWING EYES SEEMINGLY SET IN ITS CHEST), THE CREATURE THEN TURNED AND "ODDLY SHUFFLED" TOWARD THE DOOR OF AN OLD GENERATOR PLANT.



ROGER SCARBERRY HAD SEEN MORE THAN ENOUGH.

HE PUNCHED THE GAS FOR POINT PLEASANT, PASSING A DEAD DOG ALONG THE ROAD (<POSSIBLY POOR BANDIT>).



BUT THE HORRIFYING ENCOUNTER HAD JUST BEGUN, AS LINDA SCARBERRY WAS FIRST TO NOTICE --

IT'S FOLLOWING US!



ACCORDING TO ROGER, THE WINGED MONSTROSITY KEPT EFFORTLESS PACE AT SPEEDS UP TO 100 MPH, EMITTING WEIRD SHRIEKING SOUNDS, BUT NEVER ONCE FLAPPING ITS WINGS

IT LEFT -- OR DISAPPEARED -- ONLY WHEN THE CAR REACHED THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN

BY THE TIME SHERIFF'S DEPUTY MILLARD HALSTEAD INVESTIGATED, THE BIZARRE HUMANOID WAS LONG GONE -- AND SO WAS THE DEAD DOG. BUT FROM HALSTEAD'S POLICE RADIO THERE SUDDENLY CAME THE SOUNDS OF A SPEEDED-UP PHONOGRAPH RECORD.



THANKS TO MARY HYRE, REPORTER FOR THE ATHENS, OHIO MESSENGER AND LOCAL ASSOCIATED PRESS STRINGER, THE STORY SPLASHED WORLDWIDE

AND BY THE NEXT DAY, THE DESOLATE "TNT AREA" -- PERFECT AS A MONSTER HAUNT AND BORDERED BY A 2500-ACRE ANIMAL PRESERVE -- WAS MOBBED BY Gawkers AND PRESS ALIKE



THAT NIGHT TWO FAMILIES, THE WAMSLEYS AND THE BENNETTS, DROVE OUT TO VISIT THEIR FRIENDS, THE THOMASES, AT THEIR ISOLATED HOME IN THE "TNT AREA"

RAYMOND WAMSLEY DECIDED TO GIVE THE THOMASES A SCARE BY PLAYING MONSTER AT THEIR WINDOW, BUT BEFORE HE COULD DO SO --



THE REAL MONSTER APPEARED NEAR THEIR CAR. "IT ROSE UP SLOWLY," MRS. BENNETT SAID "A GRAY THING...WITH TERRIBLE GLOWING RED EYES"






WHEN THE HORRIFIC APPARITION ROSE TO ITS FULL HEIGHT, MRS. BENNETT WAS SO TRANSFIXED THAT SHE DROPPED HER TWO-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER TO THE GROUND

THE THING HAD HER IN SOME KIND OF TRANCE. MR. WAMSLEY SAID SHE COULDN'T MOVE




THE PANICKED VISITORS SCOOPED UP THE CHILD, RUSHED INTO THE HOUSE AND CALLED FOR HELP—AS HUGE GLOWING EYES STARED IN THROUGH THE WINDOWS

BUT THE THING SHUFFLED OFF LONG BEFORE THE POLICE ARRIVED




TRAUMATIZED AND FORCED TO SEEK MEDICAL HELP, MRS. BENNETT WAS LATER HAUNTED BY RECURRING DREAMS AND BELIEVED THE CREATURE REPEATEDLY CAME TO HER OWN HOUSE

"I CAN FEEL IT," SHE SAID "AND I'VE HEARD IT—A TERRIBLE SOUND THAT GOES RIGHT THROUGH YOUR BONES, LIKE A WOMAN SCREAMING"




NOW THE STORY REALLY EXPLODED—AND THE CREATURE, FIRST CALLED "THE BIRD," WAS RENAMED "MOTHMAN" AFTER A CANNY VILLAIN ON THE "BATMAN" TV SHOW



MORE THAN A HUNDRED PEOPLE WOULD EVENTUALLY CLAIM ENCOUNTERS WITH MOTHPMAN AND THEIR DESCRIPTIONS WERE REMARKABLY CONSISTENT

LARGER THAN A MAN, GRAY WITH (USUALLY) BATLIKE WINGS, NO HEAD, MANLIKE LEGS, LARGE SELF-LUMINOUS EYES, "SHUFFLING" OR "WADDLING" GAIT, "SHRIEKING" OR "SQUEAKING" CRIES, AND POSSIBLE FLYING SPEEDS WITH NO WING MOVEMENT



ALSO, CONSISTENT WAS MOTHPMAN'S EFFECT ON WITNESSES—SUCH AS VIRGINIA THOMAS, WHO FOUND HERSELF PARALYZED "IT TOOK OVER MY THINKING," SHE SAID, "TOOK IT AWAY FROM ME"



ROGER SCARBERRY
WAS LATER
PLAGUED BY
DREAMS OF A
MENACING
EYEBALL
IN THE SKY



STRANGELY ENOUGH, WEST VIRGINIA HAD HOSTED
ANOTHER GLOWING-EYED ENTITY BACK IN 1952:
THE FLATWOODS MONSTER

DESCRIBED AS 'TEN FEET TALL WITH A BRIGHT
GREEN BODY AND BLOOD-RED FACE,' THE BEING
SPORTED A SNAZZY COLLAR 'LIKE THE ACE OF SPADES'



AS FOR MOTHMAN, 18-YEAR-OLD CONNIE
CARPENTER WAS THE FIRST AND ONLY WITNESS
TO CLEARLY SEE THE THING'S FACE — ON
NOVEMBER 27, 1966 — WHEN IT STREAKED
STRAIGHT AT HER WINDSHIELD
IN BROAD DAYLIGHT

'IT WAS HORRIBLE,' SHE SAID, 'LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A MOVIE.
THOSE EYES WERE FIXED ON ME. IT'S A WONDER I DIDN'T HAVE A
WRECK.' THE CREATURE VEERED OFF ONLY AT THE LAST SECOND.

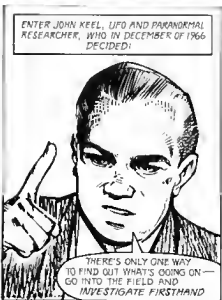


CONNIE CARPENTER WAS ALSO THE ONLY
MOTHMAN WITNESS TO SUFFER Klieg
CONJUNCTIVITIS — THE ULTRAVIOLET RAY
'EYEBURN' COMMONLY REPORTED AFTER
UFO SIGHTINGS




AS USUAL, SKEPTICS WERE QUICK TO OFFER OTHER EXPLANATIONS
FOR WHAT THE CREATURE COULD BE — SANDHILL CRANE, GIANT
OWL, GLIDER, THE NATIVE AMERICAN 'THUNDERBIRD,' EVEN A
SURVIVING PTERODACTYL — ALL OF WHICH WERE REJECTED BY
THE WITNESSES

ALSO AS USUAL, NONE
OF THE ARMCHAIR
DEBUNKERS ACTUALLY
VISITED THE AREA




ENTER JOHN KEEL, UFO AND PARANORMAL
RESEARCHER, WHO IN DECEMBER OF 1966
DECIDED:

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY
TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON —
GO INTO THE FIELD AND
INVESTIGATE FIRSTHAND



ALONG WITH THE SENSATIONALLY COVERED MOTHMAN SIGHTINGS, KEEL FOUND THAT THERE WERE ONGOING UFO SIGHTINGS IN THE POINT PLEASANT AREA — UNTIL THEN UNREPORTED IN THE PRESS


TO KEEL, THE UFOs SEEMED LESS LIKE ALIEN SPACESHIPS THAN "MASSES OF ENERGY PLAYING GAMES WITH HUMAN MINDS."



SPOTTING A NUMBER OF UFOs HIMSELF IN THE "TNT AREA" AND ELSEWHERE, KEEL BLINKED HIS FLASHLIGHT AT ONE

"HUNH!"


— WHEREUPON THE NOCTURNAL LIGHT PROMPTLY BLINKED BACK



WHEN KEEL USED MORSE CODE TO BEAM'D-DESCEND, THE THING IMMEDIATELY DROPPED IN A WAFFING ZIG-ZAG — THE CLASSIC UFO "FALLING LEAF" DESCENT.



THE DEEPER KEEL DUG, THE MORE WEIRDNESS HE FOUND, RUNNING THE PARANORMAL GAMUT FROM EARLY ANIMAL MUTILATIONS ("SURGICAL INCISIONS, ALL BLOOD DRAINED") AND SIMPLE CROP CIRCLES ("THEN CALLED "SAUCER NESTS")...



TO POLTERGEIST ACTIVITY AND THE PRESENCE OF THOSE SINISTER BEINGS KNOWN AS "MEN IN BLACK"




ON FEBRUARY 22, 1967, HER EYE PROBLEMS GONE, CONNIE CARPENTER WAS APPROACHED BY A BLACK BUICK—TWENTY YEARS OLD, BUT SEEMINGLY BRAND-NEW. ASSUMING THE DRIVER NEEDED DIRECTIONS, SHE WENT TO THE CAR.

--AND WAS ABRUPTLY SEIZED BY THE DRIVER

"GET IN HERE!"

AFTER A TERRIFYING STRUGGLE, CONNIE BROKE FREE, RAN HOME AND LOCKED HERSELF IN



IN RESPONSE TO A LOUD KNOCK THE NEXT DAY, SHE FOUND A NOTE SLIPPED UNDER HER DOOR

PRINTED IN BLOCK CAPITALS, IT READ: "BE CAREFUL, GIRL... I CAN GET YOU YET."

OTHER MOTHMAN AND UFO WITNESSES RECEIVED VISITS FROM "MEN IN BLACK" POSING AS CENSUS TAKERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, AND BIBLE SALESMEN



OTHER WITNESSES WERE SUDDENLY CREEPED OUT BY HAYWIRE PHONES AND TVs, FLOATING BALLS OF LIGHT, ODD SMELLS, WEIRD BEEPINGS AND THUMPINGS, THE EERIE SOUNDS OF SPEEDED-UP PHONOGRAPHS, THE CRIES OF PHANTOM BABIES, LOCKED DOORS OPENING BY THEMSELVES, MOVING OR LEVITATING OBJECTS, AND OTHER POLTERGEIST MANIFESTATIONS



ON JANUARY 19, 1967, YEETOTALER TAD JONES HAD A TWO-MINUTE ENCOUNTER WITH A METAL SPHERE HOVERING JUST ABOVE HIGHWAY 64 IN BROAD DAYLIGHT.

DULL ALUMINUM IN COLOR WITH A SMALL WINDOW, FOUR "LANDING LEGS WITH CASTER-LIKE WHEELS," AND A BOTTOM "PROPELLOR," THE OBJECT EVENTUALLY ROSE OFF INTO THE SKY.



JONES FOUND A SINGED NOTE SLIPPED UNDER HIS DOOR THE FOLLOWING DAY. WHETHER PRANKSTERS OR "PIBS," THEIR SPELLING WAS "WANTING"

WE KNOW WHAT YOU KNOW
SEEN AND WE TALKED
THAT YOU HAVE KEEP
YOU'D BETTER KEEP
YOUR MOUTH SHUT!!
YOU WANT BE
WARNED
AGAIN

JOHN KEEL BEGAN RECEIVING OPENED AND RESEALED MAIL, SOMETIMES CONTAINING XEROXES OF PERSONAL LETTERS STOLEN BY AGENTS UNKNOWN.



KEEL'S FRIENDS RECEIVED CALLS FROM HIM WHICH HE'D NEVER MADE - AND HIS OWN PHONE, LATER FOUND TO HAVE TWO TAPS ON IT, BEGAN MAKING STRANGE NOISES AND CONVEYING EVEN STRANGER CALLS



ONE CALL IN OCTOBER 1967 WAS FROM A SELF-PROFESSED "UFO ENTITY," WHO WARNED:

THERE WILL BE A MAJOR DISASTER ON THE OHIO RIVER. MANY WILL DROWN

THE WEIRD VOICE PREDICTED THE TROUBLE WOULD OCCUR ON DECEMBER 15 1967

ON A DRIVE TO LONG ISLAND, KEEL CHOSE A MOTEL AT RANDOM—ONLY TO FIND THAT HE WAS INEXPLICABLY EXPECTED

WE HAVE A LOT OF MESSAGES FOR YOU, MR. KEEL

VACANCIES

THE NOTES, KEEL SAYS, WERE ALL NONSENSICAL

AT EVENING KUSH HOUR ON DECEMBER 15, 1967—THE DATE PROPHESIED FOR DISASTER AND 13 MONTHS TO THE DAY SINCE THE SCARBERRY SIGHTING—SILVER BRIDGE WAS PACKED WITH 31 VEHICLES

MANY OF THEM BEARING CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS

KEEL RELATED THE PREDICTION TO REPORTER MARY HYRE, WHO MENTIONED DREAMS OF PLEADING FACES AND CHRISTMAS PACKAGES FLOATING ON DARK WATERS

VIRGINIA THOMAS, WHO HAD BEEN "PARALYZED AND HYPNOTIZED" BY MOTHTMAN, WAS ALSO HAVING NIGHTMARES OF PEOPLE DROWNING IN THE OHIO RIVER

FACED WITH A HUNDRED MOTHTMAN WITNESSES AND THOUSANDS OF UFO SIGHTINGS IN THE SAME AREA, KEEL CONCLUDED THE TWO WERE CONNECTED—YET THERE WAS ONLY A SINGLE DIRECT LINK

BACK ON MAY 19, 1967, TWO WOMEN SAW MOTHTMAN RISE FROM A TREE TO "MEET A BIG RED LIGHT" HOVERING OVER THE "TNT AREA" WHEREUPON THE UFO FLEW OFF TO THE NORTH

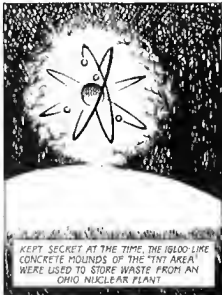
AT 5:05 PM, THE RICKETY SUSPENSION BRIDGE COLLAPSED—AND, JUST AS JOHN KEEL HAD BEEN WARNED, JUST AS MARY HYRE AND VIRGINIA THOMAS HAD DREAMED, FLOATING CHRISTMAS PACKAGES BROKE RESCUE WORKERS' HEARTS

THE DEATH TOLL WAS AT LEAST 46 AND PERHAPS 52, WITH SIX MISSING PERSONS NEVER ACCOUNTED FOR

JOHN KEEL PEGS POINT PLEASANT, WEST VIRGINIA AS A "WINDOW AREA" — A PLACE OFFERING GLIMPSES OF OTHER REALITIES



SUCH WINDOW AREAS ARE PLAGUED (OR BLESSED) WITH UFO AND ENTITY SIGHTINGS AS WELL AS ALL MANNER OF OTHER PARANORMAL ACTIVITY



KEPT SECRET AT THE TIME, THE 1960-LIKE CONCRETE MOUNDS OF THE "TNT AREA" WERE USED TO STORE WASTE FROM AN OHIO NUCLEAR PLANT



WAS POINT PLEASANT'S "WINDOW" SOMEHOW OPENED BY NUCLEAR RADIATION? OR DID STRANGE BEINGS OPEN THE WINDOW FROM THE OTHER SIDE, PERHAPS ATTRACTED OR ALARMED BY THE NUCLEAR WASTE? DID THESE BEINGS SOMEHOW CAUSE THE SILVER BRIDGE DISASTER?

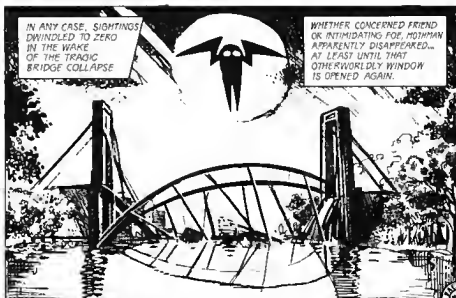


IF NOT — AND IF THE NUKE WASTE WAS IRRELEVANT — WAS THERE SOME **OTHER** PURPOSE BEHIND THE MOTHPERMAN VISITATIONS? DID THE WEIRDNESS CONSTITUTE A PORTENT OF IMPENDING TRAGEDY? WERE THE DREAMS HYPNOTICALLY IMPLANTED?



CLAIMING "HUNDREDS" OF EVENTUAL MOTHPERMAN ENCOUNTERS, EARLY WITNESS LINDA SCARBERRY SAYS: "IT DOESN'T WANT TO HURT YOU... IT JUST WANTS TO COMMUNICATE"

IF SO, THE RESULTS WERE GARBLED AT BEST



IN ANY CASE, SIGHTINGS DWINDLED TO ZERO IN THE WAKE OF THE TRAGIC BRIDGE COLLAPSE

WHETHER CONCERNED FRIEND OR INTIMIDATING FOE, MOTHPERMAN APPARENTLY DISAPPEARED... AT LEAST UNTIL THAT OTHERWORLDLY WINDOW IS OPENED AGAIN.

LET'S BRACE OURSELVES SHALL WE, AS WE EXAMINE THIS SCARY CHARACTER, CRYPTOZOOLOGY'S LATEST AND GREATEST PARANORMAL PREDATOR, A PRETERNATURAL NIGHT-GOBLIN WHICH HAS BEEN DUBBED EL CHUPACABRAS—WHICH IS SPANISH FOR—

THE GOATSUCKER



Exsanguinated victims rapidly climbed into the hundreds, not all of them sacrificial goats.



There were also sheep, cattle, horses, dogs, cats, rabbits, ducks, geese, chickens, and various other farm and domestic animals—anything, in short, containing the elixir vitae blood.

The authorities quickly blamed some mundane suspects: packs of wild dogs and "savage" Rhesus monkeys escaped from an experimental laboratory.



But many Puerto Rican people familiar with the signs of normal predation did not agree.

When veterinarian Carlos Soto explained in scientific terms that normal animal biting would have produced some mauling of the skin—

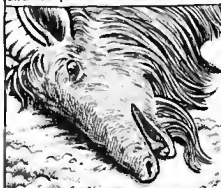


--the official culprit then became "a single-fanged dog."

It began in the spring of 1995 with the alarming discovery of bloodless carcasses on the island of Puerto Rico.



It was a strange Puerto Rican variant of cattle mutilations—but instead of laser-clean surgical incisions, the victims bore small deep circular puncture wounds—



--through which all blood had been drained...or sucked.

But according to researcher Jorge Martin, whatever creates the characteristic puncture "seems to cauterize the wound" while preventing "natural inflammatory processes," rigor mortis, and coagulation of remaining blood traces.

NO KNOWN
ANIMAL SPECIES
ON EARTH CAN
DO THIS



Ignoring these claims, the authorities changed their opinion to "vultures"

Rejecting the authorities' shifting views, the people began reporting what their own eyes had seen



"At first I thought it was a dog," said one witness...

"But then it stood up--"



MADRE
DE
DIOS!

--and it soon became known as El Chupacabras -- named for its goatsucking proficiency

From composite descriptions Martin says the nightmarish 4-foot tall Goatsucker is a winged biped with coarse black hair



It has clawed forelimbs, strong hind legs, and spinal appendages "like quills with fleshy membranes which change color from blue to green, red, and purple."

Its oddly fanged oval head has an elongated jaw and huge glowing red eyes with green pupils



(In the face of this, the authorities tried to explain it away as "big cats" or "vampire bats.")

Since the predation sites lacked signs of struggle, it has been suggested that the Goatsucker's victims are "mesmerized" into submission by its penetrating stare.



GAZE
INTO
MY EYES
DEEPLY
INTO MY
EYES

Others claimed they were made "sleepy and faint" by the Goatsucker's "weird hissing sound."



During a broad daylight encounter on April 2, 1995, one witness actually passed out as a group of others experienced "extreme nausea."

And on May 8, 1996, Lt. Victor Santiago was utterly stumped by the deaths of 20 blood-sucked chickens in Villalba, Puerto Rico



The Goatsucker reportedly "gallops" at extreme speed and is capable of leaping more than 20 feet in a single bound. Some even say it can fly.



Lucy Batista describes the Goatsucker's inhuman scream as "the combined sound of a cat's growling and a goat's braying."



It caused her, she admits, to "feel fear."

Scott Corrales interviewed Dona Maria de Gomez, a woman who interrupted the Goatsucker's attack on a puppy outside her home near El Yunque rain forest.



She said, "It was the ugliest thing I'd ever seen."

Face to face with the thing, Mrs. Gomez found herself bitterly thinking:



As if reading the woman's mind—and wounded by her mental epithets—the grotesque creature stumbled back, drawing a protective wing across its face—



-- then leaped onto her terrace rail and flew off into the night.



Researcher Corrales learned that other strange entities had been seen on the Gomez plantation—

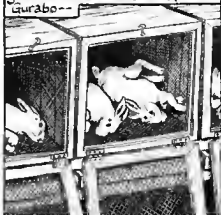


Perhaps strangest of all, Mrs. Gomez and her daughter had also seen silver-suited "alien Greys" holding hands as they "jumped" over a fence on their property.



The woman believes all these beings came from the rain forest, either angered or drawn by the 'nauseating odor' from an illegal dumpsite near her home.

Corrales also interviewed Mr. Jesus Sanchez, a man who raised backyard rabbits in the town of Guarabo--



--until something opened the cages and drained the bunnies.

Sanchez staked out the cages and caught the blood-thief red-handed at 4 a.m. a few nights later.



Blinded by Sanchez's light, the mysterious predator fled in panic, receiving two vengeful machete hacks before it could escape.



"The blows," Sanchez said with a shudder, "sounded like hits on a drum."

Sanchez may have thought about running for his machete again when a Department of Natural Resources official warned him that--



YOU WILL BE PROSECUTED IF YOU KILL A PROTECTED CREATURE

HOW CAN YOU PROTECT A CREATURE WHICH YOU CLAIM DOES NOT EXIST?

AND IF YOU DO PROTECT IT, YOU WILL BE GUILTY OF COMPLICITY IN HUNDREDS OF ANIMAL KILLINGS!

Recalling his hellish confrontation (with the Goatsucker, not the bureaucrat), Sanchez has no doubt that El Chupacabras is an agent of Satan.



Bloodless carcasses continued to be found—sometimes after nights filled with the horrible sounds of shrieking livestock



The authorities came up with a new scapegoat: Satanic sects



Considering the numbers and widespread nature of the killings, Puerto Rico was apparently suffering from an incredible influx of dedicated devil-worshippers

SO WHAT WAS HAPPENING ON THIS CARIBBEAN ISLAND? WHO OR WHAT WAS TRULY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ABRUPT BLOOD-LETTING?



AND IF EL CHUPACABRAS WAS REAL, WHAT ON EARTH WAS IT?

Calling the Goatsucker an "ABE" (Alien Biological Entity), Jorge Martin thinks it resembles a cross between an "alien Grey" and a "bipedal erect dinosaur with no tail."



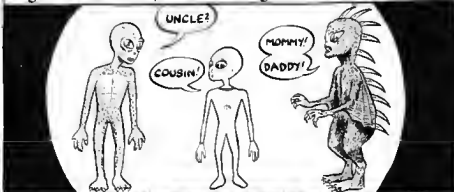
The "Grey" analogy may seem like a stretch--

--until we add the paleontological model of an "intelligent dinosaur" currently on display in some museums--



--an extrapolation of what a small bipedal dinosaur would look like had it continued evolving rather than going extinct

The similarity, however, is closest between "evolved dinosaur" and alien Grey"—and UFO abductees have, in fact, described "reptilian Greys" in command of plain-vanilla Grey "drones"



Could El Chupacabras be a "hybrid offshoot" of the "reptilian Greys"? The authorities also tried a more down-to-earth version of this possibility, suggesting an "escaped biogenetic experiment."

And Martin cites the "electronic genetic scrambling done by Chinese-Russian scientist Dr. Tsian Kanchen--

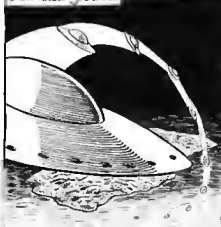


--in which "high-frequency biological linking" has produced cross-species plants and animals such as corn-wheat, chicken-ducks, and rabbit-goats

Furthermore, UFOnuts have already been blamed for the creation of another mystery humanoid, supposedly splicing human and ape DNA to make Sasquatch, Yeti, or Bigfoot.



Puerto Rico has long been a UFO hot-spot. In the 90's continuous sightings have even spawned rumors of alien activity at a local U.S. military base.



And two other weird humanoids associated with UFOs — West Virginia's "Mothman" and "the Jersey Devil" — both share the Goatsucker's large red-glowing eyes.



But is there any evidence of serious UFO activity in Puerto Rico? Actually, there is

Shortly before the Goatsucker's first appearance, witnesses saw a US fighter jet 'disappear' into a UFO it had been 'chasing'



Investigators disagree as to whether the jet was 'captured' or 'docking'

In early November of 1995, amidst sightings of triangular and pyramidal UFOs as well as luminous discs, Martin and others claim that "at least two" Goatsuckers were captured in El Yunque rainforest.



Both were allegedly taken alive to the U.S. mainland.

Also in November, and heavily reported in the media, a UFO was seen hovering above the antenna of an AM radio station in Barranquitas.



The press omitted one aspect: Nearby encounters with 'ABE' creatures' minutes before and after.

A woman in Canovas claimed that a Goatsucker jumped, flew, and entered a round luminous object" above her car



Men in Black (who, according to Martin, were from "bogus UFO groups organized by U.S. Intelligence") quickly and predictably materialized to "disseminate disinformation":



But why would the blood-feeders pollute their own meals? Let's remember that all the people involved don't exactly get together and meet to make their theories and jibe with each other:



Some officials, such as Canovas Mayor Jose Soto, took El Chupacabras more seriously.



Mayor Soto organized citizen militias of up to 100 men, and even baited a cage with a bloody goat carcass—



Even so, a member of the Puerto Rican House of Representatives, Juan E. Lopez, introduced House Resolution 5012 on Nov 9, 1995:

RESOLUTION

To order the House of Representatives Agriculture Commission to do a profound and exhaustive investigation to clarify the unknown phenomenon and account the damages caused by "Chupacabras" to the farmers of this country.

Even policemen became believers—especially the Canovas officer whose 357 Magnum painted a wall with Goatsucker blood

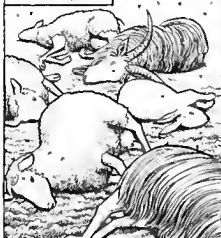


After the wounded creature fled, the cop was "so shocked" that he "immediately cleaned up the mess."

Analysis of blood collected from a nearby fence, however, was, according to Martin: "Sample #3. The blood is in no way compatible with human blood"



Beginning in February of 1996, hundreds more bloodless animals began turning up — but now in Mexico



Mexican authorities tried blaming Haitian-spawned voodoo and Santería practitioners—but again, only an army of converts could account for all the sudden carnage.



Besides, animal sacrifice makes for one hell of a mess, whereas the Chupacabras mystery is distinguished by the complete absence of blood

Catholic representatives, specifically Archbishop of Morelia, Alberto Suarez Inda, called for calm.

THERE EXISTS VERY STRANGE PHENOMENON WHICH ARE COMPLICATED TO INVESTIGATE AND DEMAND ALL AVAILABLE TIME AND MEANS TO BE SOLVED



This hardly stopped cosmopolitan Mexicans from pronouncing the matter settled, although there had been no serious investigation --



CHUPACABRAS IS ALL TALK.

IT IS BOOL-SHEET.

—even as their rural brethren were reporting slow moving globes of light in areas where drained carcasses were later found.



Called "brujas"—meaning "witches"—these light-balls have been seen for centuries.

Meanwhile, in Peru, weird mandrill-like creatures, called "Isnashi," have reportedly been exsanguinating their prey.



After Costa Rican Erlinda Vega claimed that a goatsucker-like being attacked her (a bloodless heifer was also found at the site), sociologist Francisco Escobar blamed it on a vampire bat and superstition.



MORE DE DIOS AM I STUPID TO BE SEEING YOU!

"The real Chupacabras," Escobar said, "is poverty and lack of education"—even though "significant radiation" has been detected at Costa Rican and Guatemalan Chupacabras sites.

Even as the Goatsucker rampaged through Puerto Rico, Mexico Central America and South America, the phenomenon occurred in Florida, Texas, and California.



Possibly supporting the superstition theory, the U.S. reports invariably come from Hispanic or Latino communities.

Maybe El Chupacabras is merely a Latino counterpart of the European vampire myth...



So if the Goatsucker is a thought-form "Tulpa" or an "archetype" created by Jung's "collective unconscious"... then what the devil is going on in Hispanic heads these days?



Given its Pan-like legs, as well as reports of "the strong smell of sulphur," some suggest that the Goatsucker is not just a vampire, but a "demon"—or worse yet, a "god".



After all, is the gargoyle-like Chupacabras any different from the goat-hooved Satyr of ancient Greece? And what about the goat-headed god-demon Baal? Both reveled in blood and excess.

Indeed, literally millions of lives have been sacrificed to gods throughout history, enabling deities to gorge and get drunk on oceans of blood, both animal and human. For example using "assembly lines" of priests, the Aztecs alone ripped out hearts by the thousands.

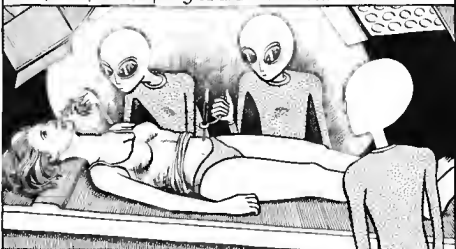


And lest we think the grisly practice is confined to "superstitious pagan cultures," remember that the Bible is crammed with blood sacrifice.

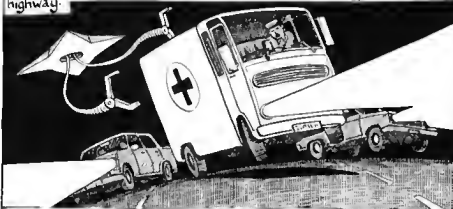
The gods have always demanded blood—and if belief in aliens constitutes a "new religion," as many posit, then the UFO-linked cattle mutilations fit right in.



UFO abductees (who often awaken with pillow-staining bloody noses) routinely complain of aliens stealing sperm, ova, blood, and other "vital fluids" from their paralyzed and "mesmerized" bodies.



And a 1967 UFO incident (surely the most absurd on record were it not for multiple independent witnesses) involved a wacky sky-craft whose "extended pincers" tried to snatch a vehicle off an Ohio highway.



"Scared off by other motorists," the UFO abandoned its prey—which was a Red Cross bloodmobile.

But why this creepy, constant fixation with blood? What's the addiction? Researcher Salvador Freixado believes there is a "life-force" in blood—a mix of "subtle energies" which supernatural beings crave and perhaps even require.



In the absence of sacrifice, Freixado suggests, the "gods" may take matters into their own bloodstained hands, "extracting some vital substance, some drug, some energy required to materialize in our dimension."



And if blood does contain some magic ingredient, is it released by fire?



Is this why "burnt offerings" were de rigueur in so many cultures?

Indeed, occult practitioners have always used blood to "open gateways to other realms," to conjure supernatural beings, to appease demonic forces--



...or simply to emulate their dark gods

To Greek and Roman gods—who also "lived forever"—blood was "sacred wine" or the "nectar of life."



And we find the same beliefs in ancient Egypt, China, Sumeria, India, Africa, everywhere—gods and demons sustaining their immortality by preying on the mortal blood and life of humans.

Finally, during the earlier Puerto Rican mutilation epidemic of 1974-75, Freixado says, "Many other strange phenomena were occurring... the appearance of large unknown animals, mysterious explosions, apparitions of the Virgin, religious icons that wept or bled, bizarre disappearances..."



"All these things are more than merely related; they proceed from the same source."

Dracula decreed: "For the blood is the life," and in it he consumed something which rendered him immortal!



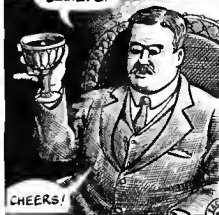
And his victims loved it.

In a curious reversal, the Christian rite of communion symbolically enables mortals to consume the blood of the god Jesus, which supposedly bestows "everlasting life" in the afterworld of heaven.



The same crimson feast with the tables turned.

WHAT THAT SOURCE IS, IS ANYBODY'S GUESS. SO HERE'S TO THE GOATSUCKER AND ALL THE OTHER BLOODY GODS—AND TO OUR OWN BIZARRE BELIEFS.



MESSING WITH MINDS ALREADY SHAKEN, MYSTERIOUSLY APPEARING WITH THE WORST THING POSSIBLE, AND EVER LURKING ON THE PERIPHERY OF THE PARANORMAL... HERE COME!

THOSE SINISTER MEN IN BLACK



THE TYPICAL "MIB," AN ABSURD BUT CHILLING BOGEYMAN TIMESLIPPED FROM THE PARANOID '50s, IS MOST OFTEN ENCOUNTERED AFTER A UFO SIGHTING.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD YOU HAVE WITNESSED A FLYING SAUCER.

NOT WISE.



ALL MIBs ARE MYSTIFYING, BUT FEW ARE ANY WORSE THAN B-MOVIE HEAVIES DESIGNED TO INTIMIDATE WHILE SELDOM (IF EVER) CAUSING ACTUAL...

SAY NOTHING ABOUT THE ANOMALOUS AERIAL OBJECT YOU NEVER SAW IF YOU WANT YOUR WIFE TO STAY AS PRETTY AS SHE IS

HUH?

JUST KIDDING!



ATYPICAL BUT HARDLY UNKNOWN ARE THOSE LOST MEN IN BLACK WHO WEAR CLOTHING RADICALLY OUT OF STYLE—OR NOT YET IN FASHION

I'M A MEDIEVAL MIB...

...WHILE I TAUGHT DARTH VADER EVERYTHING HE KNOWS



ALL MIBs INDUCE PARANOIA, BUT SOME PRY FOR INFORMATION (AS IF AGENTS CAUSING UFOs) WHILE OTHERS TRY TO SUPPRESS THE SAME INFO (AS IF AGENTS FROM UFOs)...

YOU REALLY SAW IT? FLYING SAUCERS ARE REALLY REAL?!

YOU SAW NOTHING! FLYING SAUCERS DO NOT EXIST!



SOME MIBs KNOW FAR TOO MUCH ABOUT WITNESSES' PERSONAL AND PRIVATE LIVES

KEEP SEEING MOTH-MAN AND YOUR JULY 4th HOBOKEN CLAMBAKE WITH HERB AND WALLY WILL SUFFER NULLIFICATION

HOW DID YOU...?



BACK IN THE '50s, MIBs SILENCED WITNESSES AND CONFISCATED EVIDENCE BY POSING AS AIR FORCE AND INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS

YOUR FILM WILL BE DULY RETURNED... NOT.



(SUCH CASES WERE INVESTIGATED BY THE CIA, BUT THE FINDINGS REMAIN CLASSIFIED.)



IN THE PAST
THEY WERE CALLED 'KELPIES'
OR 'WATER HORSES' OR EVEN
'DRAGONS' — BUT TODAY WE
KNOW SCOTLAND'S 'LONG-NECKED
BEASTIES' AS —



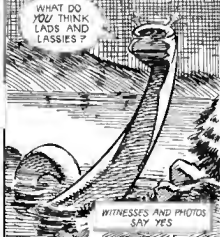
THE MONSTERS of LOCH NESS

THE THIRD LARGEST LAKE IN EUROPE AND THE LARGEST IN THE U.K. LOCH NESS IS SOME 23 MILES LONG, MORE THAN A MILE WIDE, AND 800-1,000 FEET DEEP (MORE THAN THE HEIGHT OF THE EIFFEL TOWER) WITH A VOLUME VAST ENOUGH TO HOLD THE WORLD'S ENTIRE POPULATION

DENSELY SUSPENDED
PARTICLES OF PEAT
MAKE VISIBILITY
NEAR ZERO

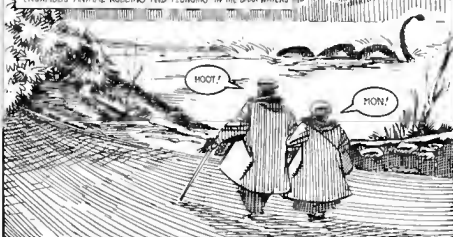
MYSTERIOUS WATERS INDEED BUT COULD
THEY ACTUALLY HIDE A MONSTER?

WHAT DO
YOU THINK
LADS AND
LASSIES?



WITNESSES AND PHOTOS
SAY YES

THE MODERN ERA OF NESSIE SIGHTINGS BEGAN IN 1933
WITH THE OPENING OF A NEW ROAD ALONG THE LOCH —
WHEREUPON MR. AND MRS. JOHN MACKAY REPORTED AN
ENORMOUS ANIMAL ROLLING AND PLUNGING IN THE DARK WATERS



TWO MONTHS LATER, MR. AND MRS. GEORGE
SPICER SAW A LARGE LONG-NECKED
CREATURE ACTUALLY LURCHING ACROSS
THE NEW ROAD



WHILE AUTHOR CONSTANCE WHYTE CALLS NESSIE
'MORE THAN A LEGEND,' THE CREATURE HAS
APPARENTLY INSPIRED SEVERAL — INCLUDING
THE 565 A.D. ACCOUNT OF ST. COLUMBA (WHO
BROUGHT CHRISTIANITY TO SCOTLAND) DRIVING
OFF A 'CERTAIN WATER MONSTER' WITH THE
'POWER OF PRAYER'



— AND A LATER MEDIEVAL STORY TELLING
OF A 'LONG-NECKED WATER DRAGON'
TRAPPED AND SLAIN IN A CASTLE MOAT

BUT EVEN IF NESSIE WAS NOTHING NEW, THE 1933 ROAD AFFORDED GREATER ACCESS TO THE LOCH, RESULTING IN MORE FREQUENT SIGHTINGS AND EVEN PHOTOGRAPHS — THE BEST OF WHICH ARE TYPICALLY BLURRY, BUT UNDENIABLY INTRIGUING

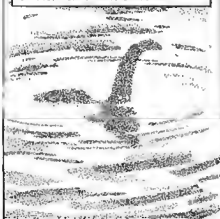


WHILE MOST WITNESSES REPORT A CREATURE ROUGHLY 30 FEET IN LENGTH, THE 1959 MACNAB PHOTO SHOWS 'HUMPS' AS LONG AS 64 FEET?

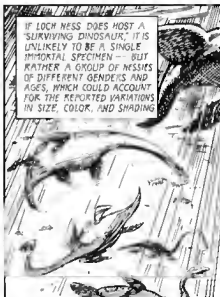


(THE PHOTO COULD SHOW TWO CREATURES, OF COURSE, OR EVEN A SINGLE FLOATING LOG)

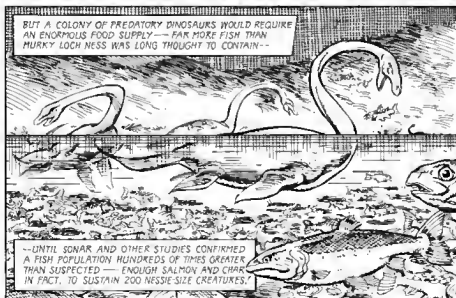
THE MOST FAMOUS NESSIE IMAGE OF ALL — THE 1934 'SURGEON'S PHOTO' SNAPPED BY LT. COL. ROBERT WILSON (A LONDON SURGEON) — SEEMS TO SHOW THE DISTINCTIVE HEAD AND NECK OF A PLESIOSAUR, OSTENSIBLY EXTINCT FOR 65 MILLION YEARS



IF LOCH NESS DOES HOST A 'SURVIVING DINOSAUR,' IT IS UNLIKELY TO BE A SINGLE IMMORTAL SPECIMEN — BUT RATHER A GROUP OF NESSIES OF DIFFERENT GENDER'S AND AGES, WHICH COULD ACCOUNT FOR THE REPORTED VARIATIONS IN SIZE, COLOR, AND SHADING



BUT A COLONY OF PREDATORY DINOSAURS WOULD REQUIRE AN ENORMOUS FOOD SUPPLY — FAR MORE FISH THAN MURKY LOCH NESS WAS LONG THOUGHT TO CONTAIN —



—UNTIL SONAR AND OTHER STUDIES CONFIRMED A FISH POPULATION HUNDREDS OF TIMES GREATER THAN SUSPECTED — ENOUGH SALMON AND CHARR IN FACT, TO SUSTAIN 200 NESSIE-SIZE CREATURES.

YET SIMILAR 'MONSTERS' HAVE LONG BEEN SEEN IN OTHER LOCHS TOO SMALL OR OTHERWISE INCAPABLE OF SUPPORTING EVEN A SINGLE PLESIOSAUR



A POSSIBLE ANSWER JUST DISCOVERED IN EARLY 1997: UNDERWATER TUNNELS LINKING LOCH NESS WITH LOCH MORAR AND OTHER, EVEN SMALLER MONSTER-INFESTED LOCHS!



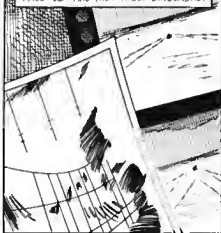
IN OTHER RECENT NEWS, THE 'SURGEON'S PHOTO' WAS BRANDED A HOAX IN A 'DEATHBED CONFESSION'—NOT BY THE PHOTOGRAPHER, BUT BY A 'MODEL-FAKER' CLAIMING THE USE OF MATERIALS NOT YET INVENTED IN 1934



FURTHER SUGGESTING A HOAXED HOAX IS THE FACT THAT A STATIC MODEL COULD HARDLY ACCOUNT FOR THE CHANGES SEEN IN THE RARE SECOND SURGEON'S PHOTO



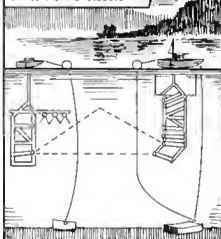
DEFINITELY NOT HOAXED: THE 1960 DINDALE FILM—AND SONAR SCANS SHOWING SOMETHING 'LARGE, ALIVE, AND MOVING' ON AND BELOW THE LOCH'S SURFACE. BUT ARE THEY TRULY DINOSAURS?



OTHER NESSIE THEORIES ARE LARGELY CRYPTOZOOLOGICAL, RANGING FROM UNKNOWN 'GIANT SALAMANDERS' TO UNKNOWN 'GIANT ORMS' OR WORSE



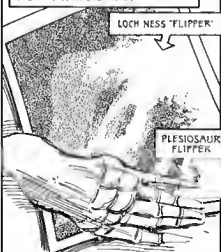
BUT JUST AS THE FOCUS WAS SHIFTING AWAY FROM PLESIOSAURS, DR. ROBERT RINES RIGGED AN UNDERWATER STROBE-CAMERA TO BE TRIGGERED ONLY BY SONAR RETURNS FROM 'LARGE MOVING OBJECTS'—



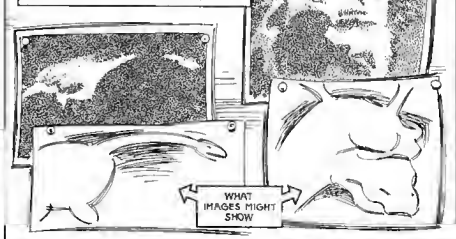
—AND, IN 1972, CAPTURED A SHOT OF WHAT LOOKS LIKE A FLIPPER MOVING RIGHT PAST THE CAMERA

LOCH NESS 'FLIPPER'

PLESIOSAUR FLIPPER



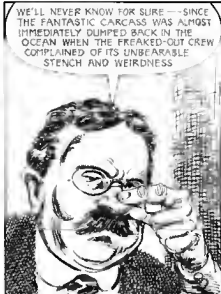
MORE EMPHATICALLY RETURNING THE SPOTLIGHT TO PLESIOSAURS WERE RINES' 1975 'GARGOYLE' AND 'FULL BODY' PHOTOS—BLURRIER, BUT EVEN MORE STUNNING THAN THE 'FLIPPER' SHOT





TWO YEARS LATER OFF THE COAST OF NEW ZEALAND, A JAPANESE TRAWLER SNUGGED THIS CARCASS — A DEAD RINGER FOR A PLESIOSAUR

SKEPTICS, HOWEVER, CLAIM IT'S ACTUALLY A SHARK WITH PORTIONS ROTTED AWAY TO CREATE THE ILLUSION OF A LONG-NECKED, SMALL-HEADED CREATURE



WE'LL NEVER KNOW FOR SURE — SINCE THE FANTASTIC CARCASS WAS ALMOST IMMEDIATELY DUMPED BACK IN THE OCEAN WHEN THE FREAKED-OUT CREW COMPLAINED OF ITS UNBEARABLE STENCH AND WEIRDNESS



THIS REPEATED NEAR-MISS ELUSIVENESS LED RESEARCHER F.V. HOLLIDAY TO SUSPECT THAT WATER CREATURES MIGHT BE SUPERNATURAL ENTITIES

INDEED, WITCHES HAVE TRIED TO SUMMON THE BEAST AS IF CONJURING A DEMON — WHILE OTHERS HAVE SOUGHT TO "EXORCISE" THE LOCH OF THE SERPENT



OTHERS EXPLAIN NESSIE'S FRUSTRATING PEEKABOO REALITY BY CLAIMING THE CREATURE EXISTS ONLY AS A TOURIST SCAM — EVEN THOUGH MOST EARLY WITNESSES WERE TOURISTS THEMSELVES, NOT LOCAL INNKEEPERS



AND, LIKE NESSIE, OTHER LAKE MONSTER "TOURIST SCAMS" SOMEHOW DATE BACK TO ANCIENT LEGENDS: CANADA'S CHAMP OGOPOGO, AND CADBOROSAUURUS, JAPAN'S ISSIE, AND IRELAND'S MANY "PEISTES"



APPARENTLY DWELLING IN SOME TWILIGHT REALM BETWEEN "NORMAL" CRYPTOZOOLOGY AND PARANORMAL WEIRDNESS, THESE CREATURES MAY NOT EXIST AT ALL, BUT AS A LOCHNESS LOCAL ONCE OBSERVED —

"IF THAT WASN'T THE MONSTER, THEN THERE'S SOMETHIN' MIGHTY QUEER IN THE LOCH!"

EVEN IN THE BIBLE, ENCOUNTERS WITH OTHERWORLDLY ENTITIES ARE RARELY PLEASANT OR PRETTY

BUT FOR UNSKIDDED WEIRDNESS, NOTHING BEATS THE GUN-BLAZING STANDOFF BETWEEN ELEVEN TERRIFIED FOLKS AND A COUPLE OF STRANGERS IN --

the Kentucky Goblin Spree

THIS MOST SPECTACULAR OF MULTIPLE-WITNESS ENCOUNTERS OCCURRED AT A CLAYBOARD FARMHOUSE IN ISOLATED KELLY, KENTUCKY, SEVEN MILES FROM HOPKINSVILLE.

ON THE NIGHTS OF AUGUST 21 AND 22, 1995

THE ELEVEN WITNESSES, INCLUDING SEVEN ADULTS, WERE MEMBERS OF THE RELATED SLITTON AND LANKFORD FAMILIES AND THEIR FRIENDS, THE TAYLORS

WHILE FETCHING SOME WATER AT 7 PM BILLY RAY TAYLOR WAS ASTONISHED TO SEE A 'SHINING' AERIAL OBJECT WHICH EMITTED AN EXHAUST ALL THE COLORS OF THE RAINBOW

BUT WHEN HE TOLD THE OTHERS THAT IT HAD COME DOWN IN A NEARBY GULLY, THEY SAID:

JUST A FALLING STAR, BILLY RAY.

AND NO ONE BOTHERED TO INVESTIGATE!

THE DOG WENT BEKSEKK AN HOUR LATER, BARKING FURIOUSLY AT THE DARKNESS

-- BEFORE FLEEING IN TERROR FROM THE APPROACH OF A STRANGE GLOW, IT WAS COMING FROM THE GULLY AND IT WAS CAUSED BY --

-- A GOBLIN ROUGHLY THREE FEET TALL. IT SEEMED TO BE MADE OF GLOWING SILVER METAL, EXCEPT FOR ITS ENORMOUS EYES, WHICH GLOWED YELLOW.

THE GOBLIN APPROACHED
SOUNDLESSLY WITH HANDS
HELD HIGH, EITHER IN
MENACE OR SURRENDER



BILLY RAY TAYLOR AND ELMER SUTTON
RESPONDED WITH AUTOMATIC XENOPHOBIA



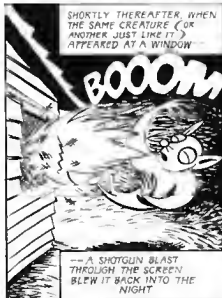
APPARENTLY HIT
THE FREAKISH CREATURE
FLIPPED BACKWARD



AND SCURRIED
OFF ON ALL
FOURS AS
THE TWO MEN
RETRACTED
INTO THE
FARMHOUSE



SHORTLY THEREAFTER, WHEN
THE SAME CREATURE (OR
ANOTHER JUST LIKE IT)
APPEARED AT A WINDOW



-- A SHOTGUN BLAST
THROUGH THE SCREEN
BLEW IT BACK INTO THE
NIGHT

ALMOST IMMEDIATELY, THERE WAS A
SOUND FROM ABOVE



AND WHEN THE MEN
RUSHED BACK OUT
SIDE, A TALONED
HAND REACHED
DOWN -- AS IF TO
FEEL BILLY RAY
TAYLOR'S HAIR



BILLY RAY AND ELMER SWIFTLY
BLASTED THE THING RIGHT OFF
THE ROOF



-- AND LATER
SWORE THAT
IT SLOWLY
FLOATED
TO A FENCE
FORTY FEET
AWAY.



AND ONLY WHEN THE GOBLIN WAS SHOT OFF THE FENCE DID IT FINALLY FLEE

KRAK

BOOM



ANOTHER CREATURE, SPOTTED ON THE LIMB OF A MAPLE TREE, WAS ALSO SUBJECTED TO THE PRIME DIRECTIVE OF "SHOOT FIRST, ASK QUESTIONS LATER"



THEN, EVEN AS ONE GOBLIN SCURRIED FROM THE TREE ANOTHER CAME AROUND A CORNER OF THE HOUSE—AGAIN REACHING FOR THE DARK SKY



THIS ONE WAS HIT POINT-BLANK WHICH MADE THE SOUND OF BULLETS ON A METAL BUCKET

BAOUM

KTANK



AND WHEN YET ANOTHER (OR THE FIRST) GOBLIN WAS SHOT OFF A BARREL, BILLY RAY TAYLOR HEARD HIS 22 RIFLE BULLET RICOCHET "FIGHT OFF ITS HARD HIDE"



THE LITTLE MAN FLOATED TO THE GROUND TAYLOR SAID "AND ROLLED UP LIKE A BALL" HE ALSO CLAIMED THE GOBLINS GLOWED BRIGHTER WHENEVER THEY WERE SHOT OR SCOUTED AT



HAVING SEEN MORE THAN ENOUGH, THE TWO MEN RETREATED INSIDE, BOLTING THE DOORS FOR WHAT WOULD PROVE TO BE A NERVE-WRACKING SIEGE



EVEN AS THE OCCASIONAL, GLOWING GOBLIN ROAMED AROUND OUT IN THE DARK 50-YEAR-OLD GLENNIE LANKFORD COUNSELED AN END TO THE SHOOTING



THEY HAVEN'T TRIED TO HURT US—SO MAYBE THEY'RE ONLY BEING FRIENDLY

BUT AS THE SURREAL SIEGE WORE ON, THE CHILDREN BECAME INCREASINGLY HYSTERICAL



THE BREAKING POINT CAME AT 11 PM. WHEN THE HOUSEFUL OF HUMANS MADE A DESPERATE DASH FOR THEIR CARS AND HIGH-TAILED IT TO THE HOPKINSVILLE POLICE STATION SEVEN MILES AWAY



THERE, A MEDICALLY-TRAINED INVESTIGATOR DETERMINED THAT BILLY RAY TAYLOR'S PULSE RATE WAS:

TWICE NORMAL.



CHIEF OF POLICE RUSSELL GREENWELL LATER STATED, "THESE WERE NOT THE SORT OF PEOPLE WHO NORMALLY RAN TO THE POLICE. SOMETHING FRIGHTENED THEM, SOMETHING BEYOND THEIR COMPREHENSION."



WHEN GREENWELL AND FIVE OTHER POLICE OFFICERS ACCOMPANIED THE ELEVEN WITNESSES ON THE DARK ROAD BACK TO THE FARM, TWO STREAKS OF LIGHT SHOT OVERHEAD WITH "THE SOUND OF ARTILLERY FIRE"



NOR WERE SHOTGUN-SPLATTED GOBLINS STRIVEN ALL OVER THE PROPERTY

THEY DID FIND A STRANGELY GLOWING PATCH OF GROUND, HOWEVER RIGHT WHERE ONE OF THE GOBLINS HAD ALLEGEDLY TUMBLED



CHIEF GREENWELL LATER STATED: "IN AND AROUND THE WHOLE AREA, THERE WAS A WEIRD FEELING. EVERYONE HAD IT. THESE WERE BRAVE MEN I'VE BEEN IN DANGEROUS SITUATIONS WITH. THEY FELT IT TOO"



HAMPERED BY DARKNESS
THE POLICE LEFT AT
2 AM

WE'LL BE BACK
TO INVESTIGATE
SOME MORE
TOMORROW

BUT THE NIGHT
WAS STILL YOUNG

AT 2:30, BEFORE GLENNIE LANKFORD
COULD FALL ASLEEP, A PERSISTENT
GLOW ALERTED HER TO A GOBLIN OUTSIDE
HER BEDROOM. SHE CALLED OUT SOFTLY
TO THE OTHERS --

ELMER! BILLY RAY!
HERE'S ONE AT MY
WINDOW!

-- AND AGAIN IMPLORED FOR PEACE
WHEN ELMER SUTTON RUSHED IN
WITH HIS SHOTGUN

PLEASE, ELMER--
DON'T SHOOT!

BUT HE DID --

BAOUM

-- AND THE NIGHTMARISH
SIEGE RESUMED THROUGHOUT
THE REMAINDER OF THE NIGHT

THE LAST CREATURE WAS
SEEN AT 4:45 AM
AND BY SUNRISE --

I DO RELIEVE
THEY'RE FINALLY
GONE!

LATER THAT DAY, ANDREW "BUO" LEDWITH,
ENGINEER/ANNOUNCER AT RADIO STATION
WHOP, SENSED A WHOPPER OF A STORY
OUT ON THE SUTTON FARM

I'M GOING
OUT TO TALK
TO THESE
FOLKS

INTERVIEWING THE SEVEN ADULT WITNESSES IN
THREE ISOLATED GROUPS, LEDWITH RECEIVED AND
RENDERED A REMARKABLE CONSISTENCY OF DESCRIPTION

--ALTHOUGH THE WOMENFOLK DID FAVOR
A THICKER WAIST. AND BILLY RAY TAYLOR
INSISTED ON THE ADDITION OF ANTENNAE

LED WITH BELIEVED THE WITNESSES—UNLIKE MOST REPORTERS

NO, THEY WERE NOT 'LITTLE GREEN MEN' FROM OUTER SPACE.

THEY WAS SILVER

THE WILD ACCOUNT WAS PARTIALLY CORROBORATED BY A NEIGHBOR WHO HAD SEEN STRANGE LIGHTS MOVING ON THE SUTTON SPREAD, ADDING: 'I'M GLAD I DIDN'T GO OUT THERE—I MIGHT HAVE BEEN SHOT.'

INDEED—AND PERHAPS MORE THAN ONCE

SEEKING NEITHER PROFIT NOR PUBLICITY, THE WITNESSES ENDURED A SECOND SIEGE OF MORE MUNDANE ENTITIES WHO VARIOUSLY BLAMED THE ENCOUNTER ON BOOZE, INSANITY, RELIGIOUS HYSTERIA OR FUGITIVE MONKEYS

THE MORE SENSATIONAL PRESS ACCOUNTS PREDICTABLY PORTRAYED THE FARMHOUSE UNDER CONSTANT AND ABSURDLY BLOOD-CURDLING ATTACK BY AS MANY AS FIFTEEN 'LITTLE GREEN MEN'

BUT THE WITNESSES—WHOSE STORY HAS NEVER WAVED IN FORTY-PLUS YEARS—DESCRIBED NO SUCH THING

IN TRUTH (BEFORE REFUSING TO DISCUSS IT FURTHER), THEY INSISTED THAT NO MORE THAN TWO CREATURES WERE EVER SEEN SIMULTANEOUSLY

AND WHILE THE HUMANS WERE ADMITTEDLY QUICK TO SHOOT, THEY ALSO ADMIT THAT THE ENTITIES NEVER 'ATTACKED' OR DEMONSTRATED HOSTILITY OF ANY KIND

AT MOST, THEY DISPLAYED EXTREMELY PERSISTENT CURIOSITY IN THE FACE OF SEVERE REJECTION

AND SO WE CAN ONLY WONDER HOW THE ENCOUNTER (SURELY AN EVENT OCCURRING BUT ONCE IN A KENTUCKY BLUE MOON) WAS VIEWED FROM THE OTHER SIDE

I THINK THAT WENT WELL, DON'T YOU?

—WHILST KEEPING OUR PARANGIP POWDER DRY... JUST IN CASE

SHERLOCK HOLMES CREATOR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE ALSO WROTE "THE LOST WORLD," A STORY ABOUT A REMOTE JUNGLE PLATEAU SWARMING WITH PREHISTORIC SURVIVORS

LET'S EXPLORE A REAL-LIFE "LOST WORLD" DEEP IN THE AFRICAN CONGO, A MISTY REALM OF DENSE SWAMPS, JUNGLES, AND, JUST MAYBE, A--

DINOSAUR ALIVE



THE MOST PERSISTENT AND SENSATIONAL ACCOUNT DATES FROM 1951, WHEN A GROUP OF PYGMIES ALLEGEDLY ENGAGED MOKELE-MBEMBE IN A TERRIFIC STRUGGLE ENDING WITH THE CREATURE'S DEATH.



(IN SOME VERSIONS OF THE STORY, THE VICTORIOUS PYGMIES ATE THE SLAIN CREATURE—AND PROMPTLY DROPPED DEAD.)

INDEED, DESCRIPTIONS OF MOKELE-MBEMBE WERE REMARKABLY SUGGESTIVE OF A SAUROPOD DINOSAUR—WHOSE PICTURE WAS INCLUDED AMONG THOSE OF MANY OTHER ANIMALS SHOWN TO WITNESSES.

AND ALTHOUGH IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EXTINCT FOR MORE THAN 60 MILLION YEARS, THE LOWE DINOSAUR IN THE LINE-UP WAS UNANIMOUSLY RINGFINGERED BY WITNESS AFTER WITNESS, IN VILLAGE AFTER VILLAGE.



STORIES OF MOKELE-MBEMBE, A DINOSAUR-LIKE CREATURE SUPPOSEDLY HAUNTING THE CONGO SWAMPS, HAVE BEEN TOLD FOR AT LEAST 200 YEARS—ACCEPTED BY LOCAL AFRICANS, REJECTED BY THE REST OF THE WORLD



DR ROY P. MACKAL, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO BIOLOGIST AND FAMED "HUNTER" OF THE LOCHNESS MONSTER, DECIDED

SINCE THE CONGO'S CLIMATE HAS BEEN STABLE FOR MORE THAN 10 MILLION YEARS, A SMALL GROUP OF SURVIVING DINOSAURS IS **NOT** IMPOSSIBLE



WHEN WITNESSES DESCRIBED MOKELE-MBEMBE AS ONLY 30-40 FEET, HOWEVER—ROUGHLY HALF THE LENGTH OF A FOSSILIZED BRONTOSAURUS—MACKAL BEGAN TALKING ABOUT A "PYGMY SAUROPOD."



ALSO INTRIGUING ARE ASHANTI GOLD-WEIGHTS, ANCIENT IN HUMAN TERMS, AND ALL BUT ONE MODELED ON KNOWN ANIMALS — MONKEYS, LIONS, AND SO ON. THE SOLE EXCEPTION LOOKING EXACTLY LIKE A BABY SAUROPOD



COMBINING A REPTILIAN BODY WITH BIRD-LIKE FEET IN DISTINCTLY DINOSAURIAN FASHION, THE SIRRUSH (WHICH APPEARS ON THE RUINS OF A BABYLONIAN STRUCTURE CALLED "THE ISHTAR GATE" MAY HAVE BEEN MODELED, SOME ARGUE, ON DESCRIPTIONS OF MOKELE-MBEMBE.



NOTING A STORY FROM THE BIBLICAL APOCRYPHA — IN WHICH DANIEL STRANGLES A "DRAGON" IN THE BABYLONIAN TEMPLE OF BEL — OTHER RESEARCHERS WONDER IF SURVIVING DINOSAURS MIGHT EXPLAIN WHY DRAGONS APPEAR IN SO MANY CULTURE'S MYTHOLOGIES.



SEEKING ANSWERS, ROY MACKAL LED A 1980 AND A 1981 EXPEDITION TO THE CONGO'S LIKOUALA SWAMPLANDS, ONE OF THE LEAST EXPLORED REGIONS ON EARTH



ALTHOUGH MACKAL NEVER REACHED LAKE TELE, SITE OF MOST OF THE REPORTED MOKELE-MBEMBE ENCOUNTERS, ANOTHER GROUP, THE REGUSTERS EXPEDITION, DID. THEY CLAIMED CLOSE SIGHTINGS OF A SAUROPOD DINOSAUR — BUT BROUGHT BACK NO PROOF

INDEED, PROOF POSITIVE HAS ELUDED EVERY EXPEDITION — INCLUDING MACKAL AND OTHERS LIKE NUGENT, AGADINA, AND GIBBONS — ALTHOUGH TRAILS AND CRUSHED VEGETATION HAVE BEEN FOUND NEAR PROVOCATIVE FOOT-PRINTS LIKE THIS.



GIANT BIRD OR DINOSAUR? YOU DECIDE.

AS FOR ROY MACKAL, HE CONCLUDED IN 1980:

MOKELE-MBEMBE IS A REAL ANIMAL, NOT A MYTH. WE OBTAINED EYEWITNESS REPORTS AS RECENTLY AS 1979.



MOST ZOOLOGISTS, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO SCOFF--

-- JUST AS THEY SCOFFED WHEN AFRICAN WITNESSES DESCRIBED "HAIRY WILDMEN" — CONSIDERED FOLKLORE UNTIL A 1961 SIGHTING BY A "CIVILIZED" NATURALIST SETTLED THE DEBATE. THE CREATURE, UNKNOWN AT THAT TIME TO EUROPEAN AND WESTERN SCIENTISTS, WAS THE MOUNTAIN GORILLA.

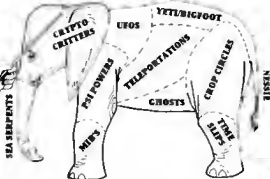
THE MORAL OF OUR TALE? SINCE THE NATIVES LIVE THERE, MAYBE WE SHOULDN'T DISMISS WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT THEIR HOME TURF, EVEN IF IT INCLUDES "WILDMEN" — OR LIVING DINOSAURS.



EVERY MYSTERY IN THIS BOOK MAY BE SOMEHOW RELATED—DIFFERENT FACES AND FACETS OF THE SAME HOLOGRAPHIC WHOLE.

IF SO, WE ARE BLIND MEN GROPING A COSMIC ELEPHANT WHOSE TOTALITY WE CAN NEVER FATHOM—EXCEPT, PERHAPS, WHEN WE PASS ON TO THAT GREAT BUTCHER SHOP IN THE SKY.

RIGHT NOW, LET'S FOCUS ON JUST TWO MYSTERIES—WHICH MAY WELL BE EPIPHENOMENA OF EACH OTHER, WHICH WE'LL CALL...



THE SASQUATCH SAUCERS

WHETHER CALLED YETI, KOWO, ALWAS, BIGFOOT, SKUNK-APe, OR YOWIE, 'MYSTERY ANTHROPOIDS' ARE USUALLY TREATED AS OUTRIGHT NONSENSE OR ACTUAL FLESH AND BLOOD (NON-PARANORMAL) TERRESTRIAL (NON-ALIEN) CREATURES



ANTHROPOLOGIST GROVER KRANTZ EVEN SUGGESTS DECLARING THEM AN ENDANGERED SPECIES: *GIGANTOPITHECUS CANADENSIS*

BUT THIS STORY ISN'T ABOUT THAT

OUR STORY IS ABOUT SOMETHING FAR FAR WEIRDER—AND IT BE GINS AT A BEACH NEAR ERIE PA. ON JULY 31, 1966...



WHEN FIVE PEOPLE IN A CAR SAW A HAIRY HUMANOID SHORTLY AFTER A UFO LANDING



FAR OUT, MAN!

DURING THE SUMMER OF 1972, STAN GORDON INVESTIGATED A DOZEN "LARGE APE" REPORTS IN OR NEAR A CEMETERY IN PENNSYLVANIA'S WESTMORELAND COUNTY—SITE OF A MAJOR UFO FLAP IN APRIL AND MAY.



POLICE AT THE SAME TIME CHASED "A NIGHT CRAWLER" MAKING SOUNDS LIKE "A MAN SCREAMING IN PAIN AT THE TOP OF HIS LUNGS"

JULY OF 1973 BROUGHT A RASH OF GLOWING-EYES-AND-STENCH-AT-THE-WINDOW REPORTS. THE EYES WERE RED AND THE STINK WAS "ROTTEN EGGS," "SOMETHING DEAD," OR "SULPHUR."



THE COMBINATION OF GLOWING EYES AND TERRIBLE SMELL—ASSOCIATED WITH BIG-FOOT, MOTHMAN, THE FLATWOODS MONSTER, GOATSUCKER, AND OTHER PARANORMAL HUMANOID—WAS SHARED BY THE "CHIMERA" OF GREEK MYTH—



--SAID TO HAVE "FIERY RED EYES," THE SCENT OF "FIRE AND BRIMSTONE," AND THE ABILITY TO VANISH AS SUDDENLY AS IT APPEARED.

WHEN THE POLISH MEDIUM KLUGSKI ALLEGEDLY MATERIALIZED AN "APE-LIKE HUMANOID" IN SEANCE, THE MULTIPLE WITNESSES ALL REPORTED THE SAME "OVER-WHELMING STENCH."



FOUR DOOR ATTENDS MANY PARANORMAL EVENTS—AND FLORIDA'S VERSION OF SASQUATCH IS EVEN CALLED "SKUNK-APE."



MEANWHILE, BACK IN PENNSYLVANIA, BIGFOOT WITNESSES EXPERIENCED STRANGE SCRATCHING SOUNDS, THE CRIES OF PHANTOM BABIES, FLICKERING LIGHTS, AND OTHER POLTERGEIST PHENOMENA.

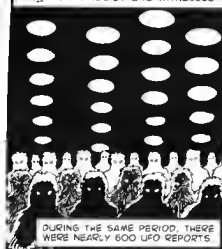


SEPTEMBER 1, 1973: AFTER SNATCHING HER BABY AWAY FROM AN APPROACHING "APELIKE CREATURE" IN ANOTHER PENNSYLVANIA CEMETERY, A WOMAN JUMPED IN HER CAR AND SPED FIVE MILES TO HER FATHER'S HOUSE.



AN HOUR AFTER HER ARRIVAL, SEVERAL WITNESSES REPORTED AN (APPARENTLY PERSISTENT) "APELIKE CREATURE" PEEING AROUND THE CORNER OF THE HOUSE.

FROM JUNE OF 1973 THROUGH FEBRUARY OF 1974, STAN GORDON'S PENNSYLVANIA UFO GROUP DOCUMENTED 118 HAIRY MANI/O SIGHTINGS BY 245 WITNESSES



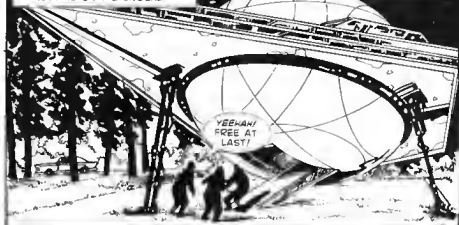
DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THERE WERE NEARLY 600 UFO REPORTS

BEAVER COUNTY, SEPTEMBER 27: TWO TEENAGE GIRLS SAW A 'WHITE HAIR-COVERED CREATURE WITH RED EYES' (ALBINO BIGFOOT?) HOLDING A 'LUMINOUS SPHERE.' A UFO WAS ALSO REPORTED NEARBY.



CARE FOR YOUR FORTUNES TOLD, EARTHLINGS?

IN EARLY SEPTEMBER OF 1973, THREE WOMEN DRIVING THROUGH A WOODED AREA ALLEGEDLY WATCHED A RAMP EMERGE FROM THE SIDE OF A LARGE RECTANGULAR OBJECT RESTING ON THE GROUND



THREE 'APELIKE, HAIR-COVERED CREATURES'—ABOUT SEVEN FEET TALL—RAN DOWN THE RAMP AND INTO THE WOODS

YEEHAW!
FREE AT LAST!

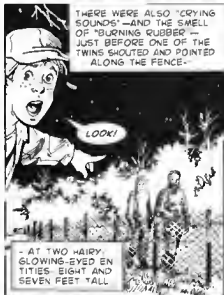
THE MOST FAMOUS BIG-FOOT/UFO INCIDENT—THE 'GREENSBURG CASE'—BEGAN AT 8 PM ON OCTOBER 25, WHEN FIFTEEN PENNSYLVANIANS WATCHED A 'LARGE RED BALL' DESCEND INTO A FARM PASTURE.



'STEPHEN PULASKI' (A PSEUDONYM), A 22-YEAR-OLD FARMER GRABBED HIS RIFLE AND DROVE OUT TO THE PASTURE WITH 10-YEAR-OLD TWIN NEIGHBORS, WHERE THEY FOUND A 100-FOOT DIAMETER UFO—'DOME-SHAPED, LIKE A BIG BUBBLE'—RESTING ON THE GROUND, NOW GLOWING WHITE AND EMITTING SOUNDS LIKE 'A LAWN MOWER MOTOR.'



THERE WERE ALSO 'CRYING SOUNDS'—AND THE SMELL OF 'BURNING RUBBER'—JUST BEFORE ONE OF THE TWINS SHOUTED AND POINTED ALONG THE FENCE.



- AT TWO HAIRY, GLOWING-EYED EN TITIES- EIGHT AND SEVEN FEET TALL

THE SHAGGY BEINGS WERE "WHINING BACK AND FORTH" AS THEY APPROACHED ALONG THE WIRE FENCE.

SPAK
SPAK

STEPHEN FIRED TWICE ABOVE THEIR BIZARRE HEADS.

AND WHEN THE THINGS KEPT COMING, HE PUMPED THREE SLUGS DIRECTLY INTO THE CHEST OF THE LARGER ONE

SPAK
SPAK
SPAK

"I KNOW I HIT IT," HE SWORE.

UPON IMPACT, THE LARGER CREATURE WHINED AND RAISED ITS HANDS TOWARD THE SMALLER ONE--

--WHEREUPON THE MOTOR SOUND IMMEDIATELY DIED AND THE UFO DISAPPEARED--

THE TWO CREATURES THEN TURNED AND SLOWLY SHAMBLED BACK TOWARDS THE NEARBY WOODS.

STEPHEN AND ONE OF THE TWINS (THE OTHER HAD ALREADY FLED) EXPERIENCED EYE IRRITATION AS THEY WENT TO CALL THE POLICE.

--LEAVING A CIRCULAR GLOWING AREA ON THE GROUND.

HAD THEY JUST MISSED THEIR RIDE?

BY 9 45 THE GLOWING GROUND PATCH HAD FADED, BUT WAS STILL BRIGHT ENOUGH, ACCORDING TO A PENNSYLVANIA STATE TROOPER, "TO READ A NEWSPAPER BY."

TROOPER BYRNE NOTICED FARM ANIMALS AVOIDING THE AREA, AND THE TWO MEN ALSO DECIDED TO LEAVE WHEN THEY HEARD RUSTLING SOUNDS FROM THE WOODS.

I'LL CALL STAN GORDON'S UFO STUDY GROUP FROM THE BARRACKS.

THE GLOW WAS COMPLETELY GONE BY 1:30AM. WHEN GORDON'S TEAM ARRIVED, AND INVESTIGATOR GEORGE LUTZ'S RADIATION TEST REVEALED--

NOTHING--
NORMAL
BACKGROUND
LEVELS.

THE FARM ANIMALS
WERE STILL SPOOKED,
HOWEVER, AND CON-
TINUED TO STAY AWAY
FROM THE AREA.

ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE AT 2:00AM
WHEN THE FARM'S BULL WAS SUDDENLY
SCARED, THE DOG CAUGHT A SCENT,
AND STEPHEN PLASKI STARTED SHAK-
ING AND RUBBING HIS FACE.

MRAW RUAAHHH...

WHEN STEPHEN BEGAN
GROWLING LIKE A BEAST,
HIS FATHER AND GEORGE
LUTZ WENT TO HIS AID--
ONLY TO BE VIOLENTLY
THROWN OFF BY THE AB-
RUPTLY BERSERK FARMER.

RAHHRR

GORDON AND THE OTHERS NOTICED,
AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE SMELL OF
"VERY STRONG SULPHUR." INVESTI-
GATOR DENNIS SMELTZER THEN TURNED
TO STAN GORDON AND SAID:

HEY, STAN
...I'M STARTING
TO FEEL LIGHT-
HEADED

MEANWHILE, STEPHEN WAS SNARLING AND
FLAILING HIS ARMS LIKE A WILD ANIMAL

STEPHEN THEN COLLAPSED FACE-DOWN
INTO FRESH MANURE, PROVING THAT
IF IT WAS ALL JUST AN ACT, HE WAS
A VIRTUOSO.

GET AWAY
FROM ME! IT'S
HERE!

splutch

STEPHEN LATER CLAIMED THAT HE HAD
SEEN A FIGURE "IN A BLACK HAT AND
CLOAK" CARRYING A SICKLE

IF MAN DOESN'T
STRAIGHTEN UP, THE
END WILL COME SOON.
THE WHOLE WORLD
WILL BURN!

PSYCHIATRIST BERTHOLD SCHWARZ NOTES THAT THE GREENSBURG ENTITIES RESEMBLED A CROSS BETWEEN THE TYPICAL SASQUATCH AND A MEDIEVAL WEREWOLF.

GRRRRR!



GRRR!



RRRR!



AND ALTHOUGH STEPHEN CLAIMED NO PHYSICAL BITES, HE CERTAINLY BEHAVED AS IF "INFECTED" OR "POSSESSED," ACTING MORE LIKE AN ANIMAL THAN THE HUMANIDS DID.



WERE PEOPLE IN THE PAST SIMILARLY TRANSFORMED? DID SOME LONG-AGO SASQUATCH-SAUCEUR ENCOUNTER INSPIRE THE LYCANTHROPY LEGEND OF "WEREWOLVES" AND "WITCH-BALLS?"

FURTHERMORE, STEPHEN'S "SICKLE FIGURE" WAS A CROSS BETWEEN THE CLASSIC GRIM REAPER AND UFO LORE'S MYSTERIOUS "MAN IN BLACK."



GLOOM AND DOOM!

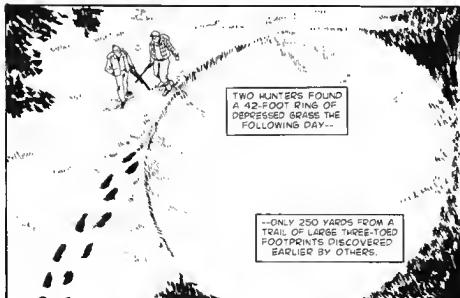
THE SKY IS FALLING!



TELL EVERYONE BUT SAY NOTHING!

THE DIRE WARNING WAS THE SAME MESSAGE RECEIVED BY EARLY "FLYING SAUCEUR CONTACTEES," MORE RECENT "UFO ABDUCTEES," AND SCHIZOPHRENICS ALIKE.

A WEEK AFTER THE GREENSBURG CASE, MORE THAN A HUNDRED PEOPLE SAW A LARGE DISC-SHAPED OBJECT ABOVE THE NEARBY MIDLAND AREA, WHERE POLICE WERE INVESTIGATING "STRANGE ANIMAL" REPORTS.



TWO HUNTERS FOUND A 42-FOOT RING OF DEPRESSED GRASS THE FOLLOWING DAY--

--ONLY 250 YARDS FROM A TRAIL OF LARGE THREE-TOED FOOTPRINTS DISCOVERED EARLIER BY OTHERS.

A YEAR LATER IN NEARBY UNIONTOWN, A WOMAN INVESTIGATING NOISES ON HER PORCH ENCOUNTERED A SEVEN-FOOT-TALL "APELIKE CREATURE"--



--WHICH DISAPPEARED AFTER TAKING A SHOTGUN BLAST.

THE WOMAN'S SON-IN-LAW REVEALED A SIMILAR ENCOUNTER FROM THE PREVIOUS NOVEMBER. IN THAT CASE, THE BEING COULD BE HEARD RUNNING AWAY AFTER IT TURNED INVISIBLE.



EXPLORING CANADA IN 1924, JAMES RENNIE REPORTED BIGFOOT-LIKE TRACKS "SPRINGING INTO BEING AS THEY CAME TOWARDS ME."



THE INCIDENT ENDED, RENNIE SAID, WHEN A "LARGE BLOB OF WATER HIT ME IN THE FACE."

THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DESERT, SPRING OF 1968 AWAKENED BY AN EXPLOSION TWO PROSPECTORS SAW A RED, CIRCULAR FLYING SAUCER

BROUIN



FOLLOWING THE RED LIGHT TO AN ADJACENT CANYON, THE MEN FOUND THE SAUCER HOVERING ABOVE ENTITIES WITH "GLOWING RED EYES" MARCHING IN SINGLE FILE



ALTHOUGH UFO AND ENTITIES ALIKE WERE SILENT, THE PROSPECTORS COULD HEAR MECHANICAL CLANKING SOUNDS AND SOMETHING LIKE "A CHURCH BELL"

THE PROSPECTORS SAID THEY WERE SHOCKED TO FIND "TWO OF THE THINGS STANDING RIGHT BEHIND THEM—AND WHEN THE BEINGS 'JUST STOOD THERE,' THE MEN FLED"



DECEMBER 2, 1974: DRIVING TO HIS WISCONSIN FARM, FREDERICK BOSAK ENTERED DENSE FOG TO FIND A TRANSPARENT DOME-SHAPED OBJECT ON THE ROAD.



"I'VE NEVER SEEN A WEIRDER CONTRAPTION," HE SAID.

INSIDE WAS A HAIRY HUMANOID—THAT SEEMED TO BE "STRUGGLING" AS IF TRYING TO ESCAPE.



BOSAK CONSIDERED RAMMING THE OBJECT BUT CHANGED HIS MIND WHEN THE INSIDE OF HIS CAR TURNED "PITCH BLACK" AND HE HEARD A "WHOOSHING." HE SAID, "YOU CAN BET I GOT OUT OF THERE FAST"

AT THIS POINT, IT'S PROBABLY NO SHOCK TO FIND SASQUATCH FITTING INTO YET ANOTHER PARANORMAL PUZZLE—NAMELY, MYSTERY MUTILATIONS



COLORADO FARMERS "JIM AND SUSAN EVANS" (BOTH PSEUDONYMS) WERE PLAGUED BY UFOs IN 1975. SEEING AS MANY AS NINE DISCS HOVERING ABOVE THEIR HOUSE AT ONE TIME



THEY ALSO RECEIVED NUMEROUS VISITS FROM A SASQUATCH ENTITY—WHO ONCE MIMICKED SUSAN AS SHE SHADED HER EYES TO PEER AT THE THING



AFTER FOUR OF HIS CATTLE HAD BEEN MUTILATED, JIM ARGUED WITH THE LOCAL SHERIFF, WHO ALLEGEDLY BLURTED:



ONE NIGHT JIM AND ANOTHER MAN CAME UPON A BLACK BOX "BUZZING LIKE A BUNCH OF ANGRY BEES"—AND THEN, BACKING OFF, ENCOUNTERED TWO "NORDIC TYPE" UFO BEINGS WHO SPOKE "VERNACULAR ENGLISH."



"THE BOX CHANGED TONE," JIM SAID, "AND BIGFOOT DROPPED."



(AND USED, PERHAPS, TO RUSTLE CATTLE?)

WHILE DOING A "KARNAK"-TYPE ROUTINE IN 1974, CALIFORNIA PSYCHIC JOYCE PARTISE WAS GIVEN A SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING A SASQUATCH PRINT PHOTO.

THESE THINGS ARE COMING FROM OUTER SPACE!

YOU KNOW THOSE HAIRY THINGS THAT RUN AROUND—THE APE-MAN? HE'S NOT AN APE!

"THERE'S THOUSANDS OF THEM," PARTISE WENT ON. "THEY'RE FROM ANOTHER CIVILIZATION LONG AGO AND HAVE MUTATED. NOW THEY'RE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH THOSE IN OUTER SPACE..."

"THERE'S A HOLE IN THE MOUNTAIN. THESE ALIENS ARE USING THEM FOR LABORERS, BUT I CAN'T TELL WHAT THEY'RE BUILDING."

NO SLACKING, MONKEY-MEN!

RESEARCHER PAUL RUSSELL CLAIMS SASQUATCH IS "AN INTERDIMENSIONAL BEING WHO GUARDS DOORWAYS TO PARALLEL UNIVERSES."

TICKET, PLEASE

UFOLOGIST MARK MORAVEC OFFERS OTHER POSSIBILITIES: THAT THERE ARE DIFFERENT UFO ENTITIES, SOME RESEMBLING THE "REAL" SASQUATCH BY sheer COINCIDENCE.

OR UFOS ARE "STUDYING" BIGFOOT AS WELL AS HUMANS.

SOME ABDUCTEES REPORT "GRAYS" USING HAIRY HUMANIDS TO PERFORM THE "HARD PHYSICAL TASKS"

YOW!

IF BOTH PHENOMENA ARE FROM THE SAME "OTHER DIMENSION," MAYBE THE PARANORMAL ANTHROPOIDS ARE NOTHING BUT ESCAPED PETS OR ZOO SPECIMENS

FINALLY, THE UFO-LINK MIGHT ANSWER SASQUATCH SKEPTICS' BIGGEST QUESTION

IF THESE THINGS PHYSICALLY EXIST, WHY HAN'T ANYONE STUMBLED ON A CARCASS BY NOW, OR AT LEAST SOME BONES?

PERHAPS LIKE THE CAVALRY, UFOs SIMPLY REFUSE TO LEAVE THEIR DEAD BEHIND

THERE IT IS!

YIKES!

CHAPTER FOUR

FROM THE BEYOND

Ghosts and psychic phenomena may or may not be related, but they appear together in this final chapter anyway — seemingly part and parcel of the same invasive and invisible mystery.

Simultaneously and paradoxically, the notion of dead-but-undead apparitions is both terrifying and optimistic. Death is the Great Unknown, and its denizens — ghosts, spirits, poltergeists — are just as alien as UFO occupants. And yet, if they truly exist, then they are vivid proof that death is *not* the end.

Unless they're *something else* — other-dimensional Cosmic Tricksters perhaps, working the ultimate con game by merely masquerading as the souls of body-dead humans, and perhaps by concocting *all* inexplicable paranormal events...

EVER GET THE SINKING FEELING THAT WE'VE ALL BEEN PUT HERE FOR THE TWISTED AMUSEMENT OF SOME HIGHER BEING?

IF SO
GET IN ON
THE JOKE
WITH THESE

COSMIC TRICKSTER Quickies

GENESIS FIGURE AND FAITHFUL SERVANT LOT, ALLEGEDLY HAD HIS WIFE TURNED INTO A PILLAR OF SALT BY GOD, BUT HE MAY HAVE BEEN A BGLANIST



AT LEAST IF THE NUMEROUS DEAD SEA PILLARS OF SALT ARE ANY INDICATION.

BY HIS OWN ADMISION, PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN FOLLOWED ADVICE RECEIVED FROM SPIRITS AT SEANCES

TAKE THE NIGHT OFF
ABE GO TO THE THEATER
BLOW YOUR MIND...



BELIEF IN THE LOST CONTINENT CALLED LEMURIA, NOW CONSIDERED SHEER FANTASY, WAS PROMPTED BY A SCIENTIFIC THEORY EXPLAINING THE DISJOINTED DISTRIBUTION OF LEMURS AROUND THE WORLD.



SEPARATED AT BIRTH, THE ANCIENT EGYPTIAN GOD SEBEK - AND LONG BEACH'S JAKE THE ALLIGATOR MAN



AND HERE'S A 1.15 MILLION YEAR OLD HUMAN SKULL (EVEN THOUGH HUMANS HAVE SUPPOSEDLY EXISTED FOR ONLY 100,000 YEARS) FOUND BY HANS RECK IN AFRICA'S OLDUVAI GORGE

— COMPARED WITH THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA ITSELF



PRETTY CLOSE, JUST ANOTHER CRAZED COINCIDENCE FROM THE COSMIC TRICKSTER.

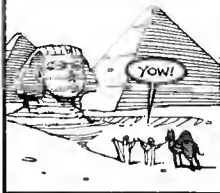


MESS WITH ME, MODERN PUNKS, AND YOU DIE!

TUT, TUT, TUT, BOY KING, LET'S NOT GET AHEAD OF OURSELVES! AFTER ALL, WE'VE YET TO DETERMINE WHETHER YOUR SO-CALLED REVENGE IS MERE MUMMYERY OR A GENUINE—

CURSE OF THE MUMMY'S BOY

WHEN THE ARABS FIRST ENTERED EGYPT IN THE SEVENTH CENTURY, THEY WERE AWED BY ALREADY ANCIENT WONDERS AND PROFOUND MYSTERY.



STRANGE CARVINGS OUTSIDE LABYRINTHINE VAULTS WERE SAID TO EMBODY SUCH CURSES AS: "DEATH SHALL COME ON SWIFT WINGS TO ANYONE WHO VIOLATES THE PHARAOH'S TOMB."



STRANGER STILL WERE THE HIEROGLYPHIC PICTOGRAMS INSIDE THE TOMBS — ANCIENT COMIC STRIPS PORTRAYING MYSTICAL CEREMONIES OF MUMMIFICATION AND LITERAL RESURRECTION FROM DEATH.



CLEARLY, THE ARABS DECIDED, THESE VANISHED EGYPTIANS HAD BEEN EXTREMELY MAGICAL DUDES!

THE ARABS FURTHER BELIEVED THAT "INVISIBLE TOMB TREASURES" COULD BE MATERIALIZED BY HIEROGLYPHIC INCANTATIONS — SINCE THE OLD WORD FOR EGYPT WAS KEME, MEANING "BLACK LAND" (THE FERTILE STRIPS ALONG THE NILE), THIS MAGICAL EGYPTIAN MYSTIC WAS CALLED:

AL KEME!



LATER, "ALCHEMY" BECAME THE BELIEF THAT MATTER COULD BE ALTERED IN STRUCTURE AND APPEARANCE VIA SPELLS AND POTIONS.

SURELY THE CURSES OF SUCH POTENT SORCERERS MEANT THE DEAD WOULD LITERALLY RISE TO PUNISH ANYONE DISTURBING THEIR REST.

WAKE ME UP TRYIN' TO ROB MY CRIB, WILL YA? YAAIEEE!



QUAINT SEVENTH CENTURY SUPERSTITION, YOU MIGHT SAY, WITH NO RELEVANCE TO OUR ENLIGHTENED MODERN TIMES?

HAI! THINK AGAIN! AS WE ZOOM AHEAD TO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY!



IN 1922, GEORGE E.S.M. FIFTH EARL OF CARNARVON, BECAME A PATRON OF ARCHAEOLOGIST HOWARD CARTER.

I'M THE MONEY!

I'M THE MAN!



BANKROLLED BY LORD CARNARVON TO SEARCH FOR THE TOMB OF THE YOUNG PHARAOH TUTANKHAMUN, (WHO DIED AT AGE 18 IN 1352 BC), HOWARD CARTER, CELEBRATED BY BUYING HIMSELF A CANARY.

THIS YELLOW SINGING BIRD WILL BRING US LUCK!



INDEED, BY EARLY NOVEMBER, IN THE VAST DESERT MORTUARY KNOWN AS THE VALLEY OF THE KINGS, CARTER'S TEAM HAD EXCAVATED SIXTEEN SUNKEN STEPS LEADING STRAIGHT DOWN TO THE SEALED DOOR OF TUT'S TOMB.



NOTIFIED IN ENGLAND, LORD CARNARVON ARRIVED AT LUXOR ON NOVEMBER 23.

IT WAS THEN THAT DISASTER, SUPPOSEDLY FORETOLD, STRUCK: A COBRA DEVoured CARTER'S LUCKY CANARY — AND, SINCE EGYPTIAN ROYALTY WAS TRADITIONALLY PROTECTED BY THE COBRA GODDESS WADJET, THE WORKERS PREDICTED THERE WOULD BE:

DIRE DEATH!



THE FEVERISH WORK NEVERTHELESS PROCEEDED — UNTIL THE SANCTUM WAS FINALLY BREACHED ON FEBRUARY 17, 1923, REVEALING THE MAGNIFICENT TREASURES OF TUTANKHAMUN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 3000 YEARS.

THERE ARE SOME MARVELOUS OBJECTS HERE, LORD CARNARVON.

YES, CARTER, WONDERFUL THINGS!



AN UNDERSTATEMENT, TO SAY THE LEAST!

AT SOME POINT DURING THE
DAY, IN A FLAGRANTLY
VAMPIRIC ACT—



A MOSQUITO FEASTED ON LORD
CARNARVON'S LEFT CHEEK.

BUT AMIDST SUCH EXQUISITE TREASURE — INCOMPARABLE
ARTISTRY IN GOLD AND PRECIOUS STONES — THE MOSQUITO BITE
SEEMED INCONSEQUENTIAL.

FINEST STUFF IN ALL OF EGYPT,
MILORD — LET'S GET IT OUT OF HERE!

AB.SOLUTELY! — YEOWCH!



AND THUS WAS ONE OF THE VALLEY'S LAST UNTOUCHED TOMBS
FINALLY LOOTED BY THIEVES WITH A NEW NAME —



ARCHAEOLOGISTS.

PERHAPS DISTRACTED BY THE
DAZZLING PLUNDER, LORD
CARNARVON NICKED HIS
MOSQUITO BITE WHILE SHAVING.

OUCH! DAMMIT ALL!



BUT STILL HE PAID NO HEED,
RETURNING TO SEE TUT'S TOMB
STRIPPED TO THE FUNGUS-
COVERED WALLS.



CAREFUL, MAN!

THERE WAS TROUBLE WITH THE
EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES WHEN
CARTER AND CARNARVON INSISTED
THAT THE DIG WAS "THEIR PROPERTY",
THEREBY STEALING NOT JUST ITS
CONTENTS BUT THE ENTIRE
TOMB ITSELF!

GRRR!

QUASH!

SWARR!



WHEN THE DISPUTE LED TO A
NEWS BLACKOUT ON THE
SENSATIONAL TUT FIND, THE
PRESS RESORTED TO INVENTING
ITS OWN STORIES —



— SUCH AS GOTHIC NOVELIST
MARIE CORELLI FORETELLING
"THE DEATHS OF ALL INVOLVED
WITH THE OPENING OF THE TOMB,
AS AN EVITABLE RESULT OF THOSE
CURSES WHICH HAD SO ALARMED
THE SEVENTH-CENTURY ARABS.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT TUTANKHAMUN'S TOMB BORE NO HIEROGLYPHIC WARNING — AND SUCH "DIRE CURSES" WERE NEVER MEANT TO BE TAKEN LITERALLY IN THE FIRST PLACE.



BUT ON THE OTHER HAND...

LORD CARNARVON'S MOSQUITO BITE BECAME INFECTED, DEVELOPED INTO PNEUMONIA AND KILLED HIM IN HIS CAIRO HOTEL ROOM ON APRIL 5, 1923, JUST A MONTH AFTER THE TOMB LOOTING.



THE ENTIRE CITY OF CAIRO BLACKED OUT AT THE EXACT MOMENT OF HIS DEATH.



ALSO AT THAT MOMENT, IN ENGLAND, LORD CARNARVON'S FOX TERRIER SUPPOSEDLY LET OUT A "FRIGHTFUL HOWL." —



— BEFORE DROPPING DEAD, TO THE CONSIDERABLE SHOCK OF HIGHCLERE CASTLE'S HOUSEKEEPER.



EVEN AS THE PRESS JUMPED ALL OVER THE CURSE STORY, A BLEMISH WAS REPORTEDLY FOUND ON THE LEFT CHEEK OF TUTANKHAMUN'S MUMMY — IN THE SAME SPOT AS LORD CARNARVON'S FATALLY INFECTED VAMPIRE BITE.



BLASTED AS BUNKUM FROM THE BEGINNING, THE NOTION THAT A MOSQUITO COULD BE THE INSTRUMENT OF AN ANCIENT MUMMY'S REVENGE WAS NEVERTHELESS BOUGHT AND BELIEVED BY MANY.



THEN OTHER DEATHS STARTED PILING UP: PROFESSORS BREASTED AND LA FLEUR DIED AFTER VISITING THE TOMB, AS DID THE AMERICAN MILLIONAIRE GEORGE JAY GOULD --

CARTER'S ASSISTANT A.C. MACE WAS STRICKEN WITH FEVER, AND EVENTUALLY DIED --

ANOTHER ASSISTANT, RICHARD BETHELL, DIED AT THE AGE OF 45 --

LORD CARNARVON'S NURSE DIED, EVEN YOUNGER, AT 28.

IN ALL, DEATH CLAIMED SOME 25 PEOPLE LINKED TO THE TOMBS, WHILE MANY OTHERS SUFFERED VARIOUS MISFORTUNES.

MEANWHILE, IN A BIZARRE COMBINATION OF BEAUTY AND BAD TASTE, TUTANKHAMUN AND ALL THINGS EGYPTIAN INFLUENCED EVERYTHING FROM ART TO ARCHITECTURE DURING THE DECO CRAZE OF THE 20'S AND 30'S --



--WHILE HOLLYWOOD SHUFFLED ONTO THE BANDWAGON WITH A SERIES OF MUMMY-CURSE POTBOILERS BEGINNING IN 1932.

A RATIONAL MIND WOULD PROBABLY DISMISS THE "TUT CURSE" AS NOTHING BUT A COMBINATION OF COINCIDENCE AND THE "BAD AIR" THEORY.



PEOPLE DO DIE, AFTER ALL, WHETHER THEY'VE DEFILED EGYPTIAN TOMBS OR NOT --

--AND SUCH TOMB OPENINGS MAY WELL UNLEASH MILLENNIA-OLD BACTERIA, FUNGI AND TOXINS ON THE ELDERLY, INFIRM AND OTHERWISE SUSCEPTIBLE.



LORD CARNARVON, FOR EXAMPLE, MAY HAVE CARELESSLY RUBBED ANCIENT COOTIES FROM THE CAVERN WALL INTO HIS NICKED MOSQUITO BITE.

AND YET, YEARS LATER, SHORTLY AFTER DEBUNKING CURSE-DEATHS AS NOTHING BUT FUNGAL INFECTIONS DR. EZZEDIN TAHA DIED IN A 1962 CAR CRASH IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE BETWEEN CAIRO AND SUEZ.



UNDAUNTED, EGYPTIAN DIRECTOR OF ANTIQUITIES DR. GAMAL EL-DIN MEHREZ DECLARED IN 1973:

LOOK AT ME! INVOLVED WITH TOMBS AND MUMMIES ALL MY LIFE-- SURELY THE BEST PROOF THAT IT IS NOTHING BUT COINCIDENCE!



FOUR WEEKS LATER, WITH THE TUT TREASURES COINCIDENTALLY EN ROUTE TO ENGLAND FOR A 50TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION, THE HAILE AND HEARTY MEHREZ ABRUPTLY DROPPED DEAD.



MISFORTUNE ALSO DOGGED THE RAF CREW WHICH TRANSPORTED TUT RELICS. IAN LANSDOWN, FOR EXAMPLE, KICKED THE DEATHMASK CRATE IN DEFIANCE OF THE CURSE, ONLY TO BREAK THE SAME LEG IN A LATER FREAK ACCIDENT.

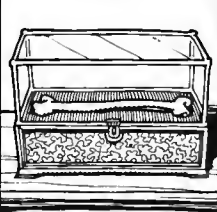


TWO OTHER CREW MEMBERS SUFFERED HEART ATTACKS, AND ANOTHER BLAMED HIS DIVORCE ON KING TUT: "THE CURSE WAS JUST A BIG LAUGH DURING THE FLIGHT, BUT NOW IT'S NOT SO FUNNY!"

IN 1936, A DIFFERENT TOMB WAS OPENED AT GIZA, FROM WHICH A MUMMY BONE WAS PURCHASED BY SIR ALEXANDER SETON AND HIS WIFE ZEYLA.



THE COUPLE RETURNED TO EDINBURGH, WHERE THEY DISPLAYED THE SINISTER SOUVENIR IN THEIR DRAWING ROOM.



SOON AFTER, THEY BOTH FELL SERIOUSLY ILL, THEN, MYSTERIOUS FIRES BEGAN BREAKING OUT IN THEIR HOME.



A NINEYEAROLD VISITOR CLAIMED HE SAW A STRANGELY-ROBED FIGURE, IN THE DRAWING ROOM, WHEN THERE WAS NO ONE ELSE AT HOME.



POLTERGEIST'S APPARENTLY INFESTED THE HOUSE, MOVING AND BREAKING VARIOUS OBJECTS AND FURNITURE, INCLUDING THE BONE'S FIRST DISPLAY CASE.



IT ENDED ONLY WHEN THE SECOND DISPLAY CASE ALSO SHATTERED FOR NO APPARENT REASON — AND THE BONE WAS FOUND REDUCED TO MUMMY DUST.



THE SETONS EVENTUALLY DIVORCED.

ANOTHER ALLEGED CURSE IS ATTACHED TO A THEBAN PRIESTESS OF AMEN-RA, WHOSE "HAUNTED SARCOPHAGUS" WAS PURCHASED BY DOUGLAS MURRAY IN THE 1860's —



— WHEREUPON HE LOST AN ARM IN A SHOOTING ACCIDENT.

WHEN A LONDON JOURNALIST BORROWED THE SARCOPHAGUS LID, HER MOTHER IMMEDIATELY DIED, HER ENGAGEMENT WAS BROKEN, AND SHE FELL MYSTERIOUSLY ILL.



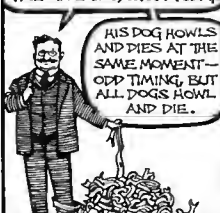
MURRAY DECIDED TO DONATE THE DAMNED THING TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM — WHERE AN EGYPTOLOGIST REPORTEDLY DIED WHILE STUDYING IT.

THEN A PHOTOGRAPHER CLAIMED HE DEVELOPED FILM SHOWING THE LID'S FACE, WICKEDLY TWISTED INTO AN EXPRESSION OF MALEVOLENCE.



OFFICIALLY, THE MUSEUM TODAY SAYS THIS IS RUBBISH.

SO WHAT DO WE MAKE OF IT ALL? LORD CARNARVON DIES AND THE LIGHTS GO OUT— BUT THE POWER FREQUENTLY FAILS IN CAIRO, EVEN TODAY.



MOST EMPHATICALLY REPUDIATING ANY MUMMY'S REVENGE IS THE FACT THAT THE MAIN MAN AND "CHIEF FLUNDERER," HOWARD CARTER HIMSELF, LIVED TO A RIPE OLD AGE.



SHORTLY AFTER LORD CARNARVON'S 1923 FUNERAL, HIS SON WAS LESS DEFIANT, TELLING OF A VISIT FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN.



SO WHO KNOWS? SELECTIVE CURSE OR CURIOUS COINCIDENCES? PERHAPS THE PHAROAH TUTANKHAMON HIMSELF SHOULD HAVE THE FINAL WORD, ALTHOUGH THE WORD IS --



1770
1901

IF INSTANTANEOUS JAUNTS THROUGH SPACE ARE CALLED TELEPORTATIONS, WHAT DO WE CALL IMPOSSIBLE TRIPS THROUGH TIME?

BEATS ME-- BUT HERE'S ONE SUCH EXAMPLE POPULARLY KNOWN AS--

The Versailles Timeslip

Paris

IN THE SUMMER OF 1901, TWO MIDDLE-AGED ENGLISHWOMEN, BOTH RESPECTED ACADEMICS, DECIDED TO HOLIDAY IN FRANCE.

MISS ANNE MOBERLEY WAS THE PRINCIPAL OF ST. HUGH'S COLLEGE AT OXFORD--

--WHILE MISS ELEANOR JOURDAIN WAS HEAD OF A GIRLS' SCHOOL IN WATFORD.

Versailles

AFTER TOURING THE AWESOMELY OVER-DONE PALACE OF VERSAILLES ON AN EXTREMELY HOT AUGUST DAY, THE TWO WOMEN WERE STILL UP FOR MORE.

LET'S GO VIEW THE PETIT TRIANON

YES, LET'S

BUILT BY LOUIS XV AND GIVEN TO HIS MISTRESS MADAME DU BARRY, THE PETIT TRIANON LATER BECAME A FAVORITE HAUNT FOR MARIE ANTOINETTE--

--BEFORE SHE LOST HER HEAD.

A NORMALLY EASY-TO-REACH GOAL--

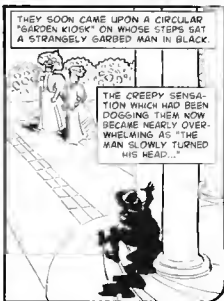
IT WAS TO BE A PLEASANT STROLL FOR MOBERLEY AND JOURDAIN--BUT ON THIS DAY, APPARENTLY, EACH STEP FORWARD WOULD TAKE THEM AT LEAST TWO STEPS BACK...IN TIME

MY, IT'S HOT.

I THINK WE'RE LOST--LET'S TRY THIS SIDE LANE

ALTHOUGH SHE DID NOT MENTION IT AT THE TIME, JOURDAIN LATER WROTE OF "A HEAVY DREAMINESS" WHICH SEEMED OPPRESSIVE "I BEGAN TO FEEL AS IF I WERE WALKING IN MY SLEEP."

MOBERLEY ALSO FELT WEIRD.



HIS FACE WAS "MARKED BY SMALLPOX, HIS COMPLEXION DARK." JOURDAIN WOULD WRITE, DESCRIBING HIS EXPRESSION AS "VERY EVIL."



I FELT A REPUGNANCE TO GOING PAST HIM.

WHEN BOTH WOMEN HEARD "RUNNING FOOTSTEPS FROM BEHIND," THEY FOUND THE PATH EMPTY, AND THE STEPS SUDDENLY SILENT.



BUT WHEN THEY TURNED FORWARD, THEY FOUND ANOTHER MAN IN BLACK ABRUPTLY STANDING IN FRONT OF THEM.



HE SEEMED "EXCITED" AS HE DIRECTED THEM ONWARD WITH A "PECULIAR SMILE."

AND WHEN THEY TURNED BACK TO SAY THANKS, HE WAS GONE.

(FOR WHATEVER REASONS, THE WOMEN HAD STILL EXCHANGED NO COMMENTS ON THE SHARED WEIRDNESS.)



THEY SOON PASSED A WOMAN SEATED ON THE GRASS. APPARENTLY SKETCHING, MOBERLEY WAS LATER ABLE TO DESCRIBE THE WOMAN'S OUTMODDED ATTIRE IN DETAIL.



MOBERLEY FURTHER NOTED THAT WHILE "RATHER PRETTY," THE WOMAN'S FACE WAS UNPLEASANT AND "NOT YOUNG."



JOURDAIN, IT TURNED OUT, NEVER EVEN SAW HER.

THEY WERE FINALLY GREETED BY A MAN "WITH THE AIR OF A FOOTMAN" WHO OFFERED TO SHOW THEM AROUND.



IT ALL ENDED WHEN THEY FOUND THEMSELVES CAUGHT UP IN A LIVELY WEDDING PARTY AT THE PETIT TRIANON, THEIR SPIRITS NOW BRIGHTENING AS QUICKLY AS THEY HAD GLOOMED.



PERHAPS RELIEVED THAT IT WAS OVER, THEY STILL SAID NOTHING ABOUT THEIR SIMPLE VENTURE WHICH HAD SOMEHOW BECOME AN ADVENTURE.

IT WASN'T UNTIL THE FOLLOWING WEEK, WRITING HER ACCOUNT OF THE DAY, THAT MOBERLEY WONDERED:

MISS JOURDAIN,
DO YOU THINK THE
PETIT TRIANON IS
HAUNTED?

I DO,
INDEED, MISS
MOBERLEY.

THEY DECIDED TO COMPARE NOTES,
ONLY THEN LEARNING HOW THEIR
PERCEPTIONS MATCHED AND DIVERGED.

MYSTERIOUS MEN IN BLACK, YES--
BUT A SKETCH-ARTIST WHO LOOKED
LIKE MARIE ANTOINETTE?

VERSAILLES VILLAGERS HAD REPORTEDLY
SEEN MARIE ANTOINETTE IN THE SAME
GARDENS, DRESSED MUCH LIKE THE
WOMAN SKETCHING. MOBERLEY AND
JOURDAIN DECIDED TO RETURN TO
THE SCENE OF THE TIME-CRIME.

ATTEMPTING TO RETRACE THEIR STEPS, THEY FOUND THE
GARDEN LAYOUT CHANGED, THE KIOSK GONE, SIMILAR,
BUT DIFFERENT BUILDINGS, AND A LARGE SHRUB WHERE
THE WOMAN HAD SKETCHED ON BARE GRASS.

THIS ISN'T
THE SAME PLACE
AT ALL!

NOT
NOW IT
ISN'T!

THEY ALSO LEARNED OTHER DETAILS--
THAT TRICORNER HATS, FOR EXAMPLE,
WERE NOT WORN BY GARDENERS IN 1901.

BUT THEY WERE IMMEDIATELY DISMISSED
BY SKEPTICS AS DOTTY BRIT DAMES
HALLUCINATING A ROMANTIC FOLLY--


EVEN THOUGH BOTH WOMEN
WERE QUITE SOBER AND NO-
NONSENSE IN THEIR EFFORTS
TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY.

EVENTUALLY IN 1911, THEY PUBLISHED
A BOOK ON THEIR EXPERIENCES AND
SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION, WHICH
ELEANOR SIDGWICK (OF THE SOCIETY
FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH) FOUND--

MUDDLED

BUT AFTER SIMILAR
FIGURES IN 1700S GARBS WERE
SEEN BY OTHERS IN 1910 AND 1938,
RESEARCHER G.W. LAMBERT REINVESTIGATED
THE MATTER AND DECIDED THAT
THEIR EXPERIENCE DID NOT SEEM TO
BE A GHOSTLY VISITATION BECAUSE
THEIR DESCRIPTIONS MATCHED THE
HISTORICAL REALITY OF MARIE
ANTOINETTE'S 1770.

HAD THE
WOMEN WALKED
THROUGH SOME IN-
VISIBLE TIME-PORTAL,
LITERALLY STEPPING
130 YEARS INTO
THE PAST?




THE "KIOSK" BECAME
A BACK-AND-FORTH STICKING
POINT WHEN SKEPTICS CLAIMED
IT HAD NEVER EXISTED IN ANY TIME
--FOLLOWED BY THE DISCOVERY OF
PLANS FOR SUCH A STRUCTURE THEN
EVIDENCE WAS FOUND THAT THE
PLANS WERE SCRAPPED--WHILE
OTHER EVIDENCE SUGGESTED
THE KIOSK WAS BUILT
AFTER ALL.

WE MAY
NEVER KNOW THE
TRUTH, BUT IF THE
KIOSK DID EXIST
THE HEAT DID...

--THE WOMEN MAY HAVE EXPERIENCED
"RETROCOGNITION," OR "KNOWING THE
PAST," THE OPPOSITE OF "PRECOGNITION,"
OR "KNOWING THE FUTURE."

I SEE A TALL
DARK HANDSOME
MAN IN YOUR
FUTURE...

THAT'S NICE--
BECAUSE I JUST
SAW A TALL DARK
UGLY MAN FROM
THE PAST...



AS LAMBERT NOTED, CHANGES IN THE TRIANON ENVIRONMENT
ARGUED AGAINST THE "GHOST" THEORY IN FAVOR OF "TIME-
SLIPPAGE"--BUT WHAT IF THE WOMEN SAW THE "GHOSTS"
OF BUILDINGS, GARDENS, AND PATHS AS WELL AS PEOPLE?


INTERACTIONS WITH SUCH "PHANTOM SCENERY"
HAVE BEEN REPORTED ALL OVER THE WORLD.

IT MAY BE THAT EVENTS OF A PAR-
TICULAR TIME ARE "RECORDED" ON
THE PLACE THEY OCCUR, AND ARE
LATER "PLAYED BACK" UNDER CER-
TAIN CONDITIONS (EXTREME HEAT?)--

YOU SEE
THAT?!

NOPE,
BUT IT SURE
IS NOT.

--PERHAPS PERCEIVED ONLY BY THOSE
"SENSITIVE" TO SUCH "RECORDINGS."



ON THE OTHER HAND, MAYBE THE HEAT ADDLED THE
WOMEN'S MINDS, INDUCING "DAYDREAM VISIONS."

ARE WE
THE GHOSTS--OR
ARE THEY?

A BETTER
QUESTION MIGHT BE
...WHO'S DREAMING
WHOM?

BUT THEN WE'D NEED AN
ESP-ELEMENT FOR THE
LARGELY IDENTICAL SHARED
HALLUCINATION, MERELY
"EXPLAINING" ONE ENIGMA
WITH ANOTHER.

WHATEVER THE REALITY OF THEIR
EXPERIENCE, THE WOMEN SUFFERED
FROM IT THE REST OF THEIR
LIFETIMES.

LET
'EM EAT
CAKE!

OFF
WITH THEIR
HEADS!

THE FOLLOWING PHENOMENA HAVE BEEN CONFUSED WITH GHOST PHOTOS, YET SEVERAL OF THE IMAGES THAT FOLLOW HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH GHOSTS, AND NONE OF THEM IS ON FILM.

INDEED, SUCH PICTURES EXISTED HUNDREDS OF YEARS BEFORE PHOTOGRAPHY WAS INVENTED. THESE "MAGIC IMAGES" MIGHT BEST BE CALLED--

MAGIC

--WHILE SPONTANEOUS IMAGES OF CROSSES IN GLASS HAVE BEEN TAKEN AS SIGNS OF GOD'S DELIVERANCE.



SUCH IMAGES WERE PREVALENT IN EUROPE AFTER THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR, AND "COULD NOT BE WASHED OFF, PROVING RESISTANT EVEN TO ACID."

THIS IMAGE, BEARING A STRIKING RESEMBLANCE TO THE MADONNA, APPEARED ON NOTHING BUT AIR, OUTLINED BY TREE BRANCHES AND THE SIDE OF A CHURCH IN METZ, FRANCE.

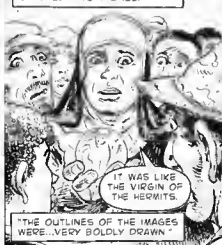


IN THE VOSGES AREA OF FRANCE, THE ABBÉ GUENOT WAS SUMMONED TO WITNESS A STRANGE FALL OF HAILSTONES ON MAY 26, 1907.



THE HAILSTONES FELL AS IF MATERIALIZING IN MIDAIR.

BEFORE THE ALMOST PERFECT SPHERES MELTED, WITNESSES BEHELD INCREDIBLE IMAGES STAMPED INTO THE ICE.



IT WAS LIKE THE VIRGIN OF THE HERMITS.

"THE OUTLINES OF THE IMAGES WERE...VERY BOLDLY DRAWN"



A PHOTO OF A BOMBER MISSION DURING THE KOREAN WAR INCLUDED THIS SKY-IMAGE SUPPOSEDLY FORMED BY "NATURAL" CLOUD FORMATIONS.



IN AUGUST 1971, MARIA GOMEZ PEREIRA WAS ASTONISHED TO FIND A STRANGE MARK SPONTANEOUSLY APPEARING ON THE STONE FLOOR OF HER KITCHEN IN BELMEZ, SPAIN

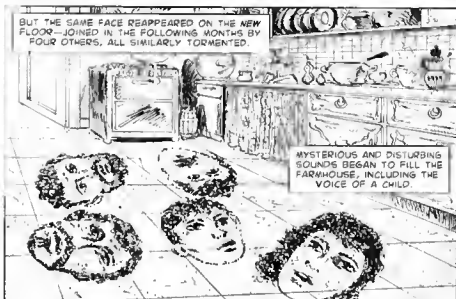


THE MARK GRADUALLY RESOLVED INTO THE IMAGE OF A STARING FACE WHICH WAS DESCRIBED AS "SAD AND HAUNTING" WITH AN "ANGUISHED EXPRESSION."

IT WAS WASHED OFF— ONLY TO FORM AGAIN.



AFTER THE AUTHORITIES WERE CALLED, WORKMEN REMOVED AND REPLACED THE STUBBORNLY-STAINED SECTION OF FLOOR



BUT THE SAME FACE REAPPEARED ON THE NEW FLOOR—JOINED IN THE FOLLOWING MONTHS BY FOUR OTHERS, ALL SIMILARLY TORMENTED.

MYSTERIOUS AND DISTURBING SOUNDS BEGAN TO FILL THE FARMHOUSE, INCLUDING THE VOICE OF A CHILD.



INVESTIGATORS THEORIZED THAT THE FACES WERE CREATED BY MARIA HERSELF, "MENTALLY IMPRINTING" THEM ON THE STONE.



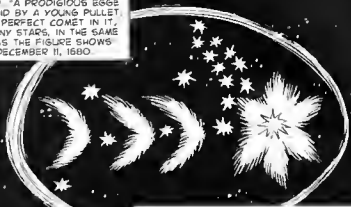
WHEN IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE FARMHOUSE HAD BEEN BUILT ATOP AN OLD CEMETERY, HUMAN REMAINS WERE EXCAVATED FROM THE SITE--

--INCLUDING THE SKELETONS OF FIVE VICTIMS MURDERED IN THE 17TH CENTURY--ONE OF WHOM WAS A CHILD.

IN 17TH CENTURY ROME, CITIZENS MARVELED AT THE "STRANGE AND WONDERFUL" COMET WHICH STREAKED THROUGH THE NIGHT SKY DURING DECEMBER, 1680



IN A BIZARRE SYNCHRONICITY, A BRITISH NEWS ACCOUNT REPORTED "A PRODIGIOUS EGGE WAS LAID BY A YOUNG PULLET WITH A PERFECT COMET IN IT AND MANY STARS, IN THE SAME FORM AS THE FIGURE SHOWS ON DECEMBER 11, 1680.



THE STORY SPECIFIED THAT THE IMAGE WAS NOT ON THE OUTER SHELL, BUT "WITHIN THE EGGE, MOST CLEARLY EXPREST"—MAKING THE DIAGRAM, PRESUMABLY, A HARD-BOILED CROSS-SECTION.

WHEN CREWMEN JAMES COURTNEY AND MICHAEL MEEHAN DIED ABOARD AN OIL TANKER ON DECEMBER 4, 1924, THEY WERE GIVEN A TRADITIONAL BURIAL AT SEA.



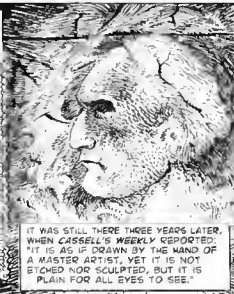
WHAT FOLLOWED, HOWEVER, WAS ANYTHING BUT TRADITIONAL.

IT BEGAN THE NEXT DAY, WHEN THE FACES OF COURTNEY AND MEEHAN TOOK SHAPE IN THE SWELLING SEA ITSELF, DISAPPEARING AND REAPPEARING BUT ALWAYS KEEPING PERFECT PACE WITH THE SHIP THROUGHOUT ITS VOYAGE.



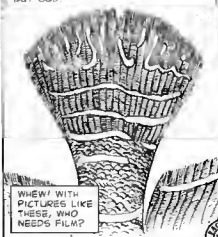
SEEN BY ALL OF THE REMAINING CREWMEMBERS, THE IMAGES WERE EVEN PHOTOGRAPHED, ALTHOUGH THE GHOSTLY FACES WERE APPARENT IN ONLY ONE OF THE SIX NEGATIVES EXPOSED.

IN 1923, TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AFTER THE DEATH OF OXFORD'S DEAN LIDELL, HIS IMAGE SPONTANEOUSLY APPEARED ON A WALL OF CHRIST CHURCH.

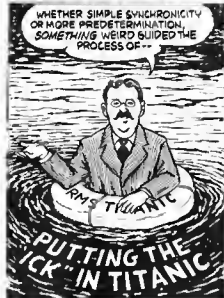


IT WAS STILL THERE THREE YEARS LATER, WHEN CASSELL'S WEEKLY REPORTED: "IT IS AS IF DRAWN BY THE HAND OF A MASTER ARTIST, YET IT IS NOT ETCHED NOR SCULPTED, BUT IT IS PLAIN FOR ALL EYES TO SEE."

AND FINALLY, THE SCALE COLORATION ON THE TAIL OF THIS BUTTERFLY FISH SPELLS OUT A PERFECT SENTENCE IN ARABIC SCRIPT: "THERE IS NO GOD BUT GOD."



WHEW! WITH PICTURES LIKE THESE, WHO NEEDS FILM?



THERE WERE TWO VESSELS,
STRIKING IN THEIR
SIMILARITIES, AS THE
WORLD'S LARGEST
LUXURY LINER (882
FEET DISPLACING
60,000 TONS)
THE TITANIC WAS
CONSIDERED
"UNSIKABLE."



WITH THREE PROPELLERS AND TWO
MASTS, THE TITANIC STEAMED FROM
SOUTHAMPTON, ENGLAND ON HER MAIDEN
VOYAGE IN APRIL OF 1912.



THE TITANIC CARRIED ONLY 20 LIFE-
BOATS, LESS THAN HALF THE NUMBER
REQUIRED FOR HER PASSENGER CAPACITY
OF 3000.



THE TITAN "CARRIED AS FEW LIFEBOATS AS
WOULD SATISFY THE LAW" -- 24, LESS THAN
HALF NEEDED FOR HER 3000 CAPACITY.

MOVING TOO FAST AT 23 KNOTS, THE
TITANIC STRUCK AN ICEBERG ON THE
NIGHT OF APRIL 14, 1912 IN THE FOGGY
NORTH ATLANTIC.



ALSO ON AN APRIL NIGHT IN THE NORTH
ATLANTIC, THE TITAN HIT AN ICEBERG
WHILE TRAVELLING AT 25 KNOTS.

THE "UNSIKABLE"
TITANIC SANK --
AND MORE THAN
HALF OF HER 2207
PASSENGERS "ED
SCREAMING FOR
HELP."



BUT WHILE THE TITANIC WAS AN ACTUAL
SHIP, THE TITAN WAS ENTIRELY FIC-
TIONAL -- CREATED IN 1898 FOR A NOVEL
BY MORGAN ROBERTSON.



INSPIRED BY A "VIVID TRANCE VISION" AND
ENTITLED THE WRECK OF THE TITAN; OR,
FUTILITY, THE NOVEL WAS PUBLISHED
14 YEARS BEFORE THE REAL-LIFE
TITANIC'S VOYAGE.

WHY CAN'T SOME BURIED COFFINS
JUST SIT STILL? CAN WE BLAME IT
ON CLAUSTROPHOBIC CORPSES OR
SPIRITFUL SPIRITS? PSYCHOKINESIS
OR TELEPORTATION? EARTHQUAKE,
FLOOD, OR SECRET SOCIETY
HOAX?

SURELY ONE
OF THESE FACTORS
FUELED THE--

of the **CREEPING** coffins
restless **DEAD...**

THE SUN-DRENCHED CARIBBEAN ISLAND
OF BARBADOS WAS THE UNLIKELY VENUE
FOR THE DARK DOINGS TO FOLLOW.

THERE, THE CHASE FAMILY TOMB,
MADE OF LARGE CEMENTED CORAL
BLOCKS SUNK INTO THE GROUND,
RESTS NEAR CHRIST CHURCH ON
THE SOUTH SHORE OF BARBADOS.

BUILT IN 1807, THE TOMB HAD TWO MEMBERS
OF THE FAMILY—MRS. THOMASINA GODDARD
AND INFANT MARY ANNA MARIA CHASE—ALREADY
INSIDE IT BEFORE THE TRAUMATIC INTERMENT
OF DORCAS CHASE ON JULY 6, 1812.

WHEN THE HUGE MARBLE CAPSTONE,
LAST CEMENTED INTO PLACE IN 1809,
WAS PRIED LOOSE--

GRIEF WAS RUDELY BANISHED
BY A SUDDEN SHOCK

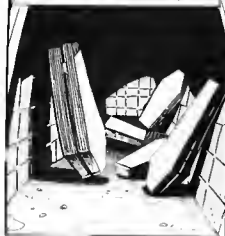
BOTH LEAD-SHEATHED COFFINS HAD
BEEN DISTURBINGLY REARRANGED
—EVEN THOUGH IT HAD ORIGINALLY
TAKEN EIGHT STRONG MEN TO CARRY
THE LARGER OF THE TWO

SINCE THE CORPSES THEMSELVES
HAD BEEN UNTOUCHED, THE COFFINS
WERE SIMPLY PLACED BACK IN ORDER
ALONG WITH THE NEW ARRIVAL, AND
THE TOMB WAS AGAIN SEALED.

BUT THE
MYSTERY
WAS FAR
FROM
OVER..

WH-WHO?
WHO MOVED
THEM?!

TWICE MORE OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS, THE CHASE FAMILY CRYPT WAS FOUND IN SIMILAR DISARRAY: ITS HEAVY CASKETS IMPOSSIBLY SCATTERED AS IF BY SOME FURIOUS FORCE



AMONG THEM WAS THE VISCOUNT COMBERGUE, GOVERNOR OF BARBADOS, WHO HAD BEEN OUTRAGED BY PREVIOUS DESECRATIONS.

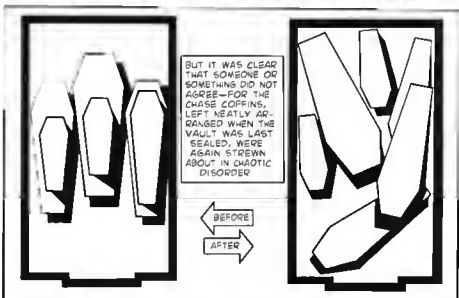


THE DEAD HAVE A RIGHT TO LIE IN PEACE!

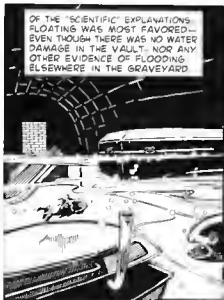
THE "MOVING COFFINS OF BARBADOS" SOON BECAME NOTORIOUS AND TOURISTS FLOCKED TO THE TOMB. UNSURPRISINGLY, A MOB OF MACABRE ON-LOOKERS ATTENDED THE FUNERAL OF THOMASINA CLARKE ON JULY 17, 1819.



BUT IT WAS CLEAR THAT SOMEONE OR SOMETHING DID NOT AGREE—FOR THE CHASE COFFINS, LEFT NEATLY ARRANGED WHEN THE VAULT WAS LAST SEALED, WERE AGAIN STREWN ABOUT IN CHAOTIC DISORDER



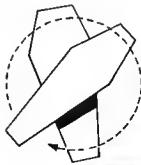
OF THE "SCIENTIFIC" EXPLANATIONS FLOATING WAS MOST FAVORED—EVEN THOUGH THERE WAS NO WATER DAMAGE IN THE VAULT, NOR ANY OTHER EVIDENCE OF FLOODING ELSEWHERE IN THE GRAVEYARD



WRITER ERIC FRANK RUSSELL SUGGESTED THAT THE LEAD COFFINS WERE "SPUN AROUND BY SOME FORCE GRAVITATIONAL, GYROSCOPIC, ELECTROMAGNETIC, OR GOODNESS KNOWS WHAT"



AS FOR EARTHQUAKES, IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE SEISMIC ACTIVITY SELECTIVE ENOUGH TO MOVE THE CHASE COFFINS WITHOUT AFFECTING THE VAULT ITSELF—LET ALONE OTHER COFFINS AND CRYPTS.



BUT WHAT INDEED?

WHEN SCIENCE FAILED, SOME WERE PREDICTABLY QUICK TO BLAME "VAMPIRES AND WEREWOLVES."



SHERLOCK HOLMES CREATOR SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE SUGGESTED—

SUPERNATURAL POWERS RESIDING IN THE BODIES OF THE PREMATURELY DEAD?



BUT AUTHOR GEORGE HUNT REJECTED "MALEVOLENT SPIRITS" AND PROPOSED "GAS FROM DECOMPOSING BODIES."



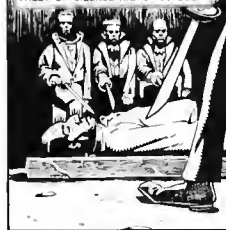
MOST INTRIGUING IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE COFFINS NEVER ACTUALLY BUDGED, MAKING THE WHOLE AFFAIR NOTHING BUT AN ELABORATE MASONIC HOAX—EVEN THOUGH NATHAN LUCAS CLAIMED IN 1820 "IT HAPPENED AND I WAS AN EYEWITNESS"



BUT LUCAS ALSO STATED: "I EXAMINED THE WALLS, THE ARCH AND EVERY PART OF THE VAULT AND A MASON STRUCK EVERY PART WITH HIS HAMMER AND ALL WAS SOLID"



WHICH WRITER JOE NICKELL LIKENS TO VARIOUS ARCAIC, MASONIC RITUALS WHICH CONTAIN REFERENCES TO "THE SOUND OF THE HAMMER AND A 'CURIOUSLY ARCHED SECRET VAULT OF SILENCE AND DARKNESS"



THIS MASONIC HOAX THEORY GAINS SOME CREDENCE FROM THE ALLEGED OPENING OF A DIFFERENT TOMB ALSO ON BARBADOS, IN 1843



HIRED BY FREEMASONS WISHING TO PAY THEIR RESPECTS TO ALEXANDER IRVINE WORKERS SUPPOSEDLY BROKE THROUGH THE BRICKED-UP ENTRANCE TO HIS TOMB



ONE COFFIN HAD SOMEHOW BLOCKED THE ENTRANCE FROM WITHIN, WHILE IRVINE (A FREEMASON FOUNDER) AND HIS COFFIN WERE SUPPOSEDLY MISSING, APPARENTLY TRANSPORTED—AS THE MASON'S CLAIMED—TO SOME MYSTICAL HIGHER PLANE



BUT IF BOTH MOVING-COFFIN ACCOUNTS WERE INDEED NOTHING BUT MASONIC TALL TALES, THEN BARBADOS GOVERNOR COMBERMERE WAS APPARENTLY A WILLING ACCOMPLICE.

LET'S TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE CHASE TOMB IN 1819...



ONCE AGAIN THE COFFINS WERE PUT BACK IN THEIR PROPER PLACES, BUT THIS TIME COMBERMERE ORDERED THE TOMB FLOOR COVERED WITH A LAYER OF FINE SAND.

IF VANDALS OR GHOULS ENTER THIS CRYPT, I WANT THEM TO LEAVE FOOTMARKS!



AND AS A FURTHER PRECAUTION, HE IMPRESSED HIS PERSONAL SEAL (AS WELL AS OTHERS') INTO THE FRESH CEMENT AROUND THE CAPSTONE.



NINE MONTHS LATER, WITH THE SEALS STILL INTACT BUT WITHOUT WAITING FOR ANOTHER FUNERAL, THE CRYPT WAS REOPENED FOR INSPECTION--AND WAS AGAIN IN CHAOS, ONE COFFIN NOW SHATTERED AND ANOTHER DAMAGED BY APPARENTLY VIOLENT IMPACT AGAINST A WALL.



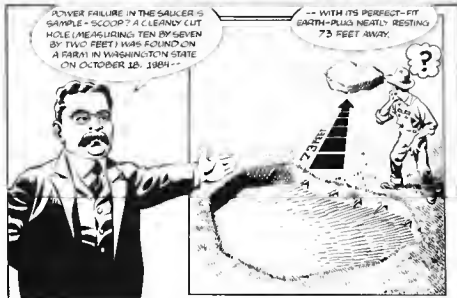
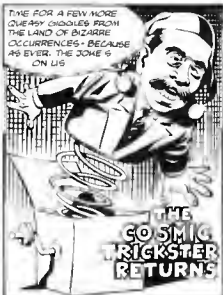
AS USUAL, THE CORPSES HAD NOT BEEN MOLESTED--JUST THE COFFINS--BUT COMBERMERE NEVERTHELESS THREW IN THE TOWEL--



--REMOVING THE DECEASED FOR INTERMENT ELSEWHERE AND ORDERING THE EMPTY TOMB PERMANENTLY SEALED.

AND TO THIS DAY NO ONE KNOWS HOW OR EVEN IF THE COFFINS OF BARBADOS ACTUALLY MOVED--OR WHO CARVED THE LARGE QUESTION MARK INTO THEIR FORMER CRYPT--





IF HOUSES ARE HAUNTED BY THEIR MURDERED OCCUPANTS, CAN DEAD DRIVERS HAUNT THE CARS THEY DIED IN?

MAYBE. AS WE'LL SEE IN THIS CASE OF THE SEEMINGLY CURSED--

CAR WITHOUT A REBEL



THE CAR IN QUESTION BELONGED TO JAMES DEAN--

--WHO IS STILL A HOLLYWOOD ICON MORE THAN FORTY YEARS AFTER HIS UNTIMELY DEATH

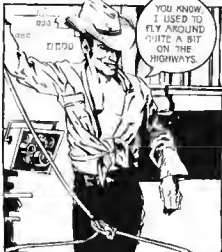
IF A MAN CAN BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH... I MEAN, IF HE CAN LIVE ON AFTER HE'S DIED, THEN MAYBE HE WAS A GREAT MAN



EVEN THOUGH HE STARRED IN ONLY THREE MOVIES, DEAN HAS BECOME THE OBJECT OF CULT WORSHIP



WHILE STILL ON THE SET OF HIS LAST MOVIE, "GIANT," DEAN FILMED A CAUTIONARY PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT:



YOU KNOW I USED TO FLY AROUND QUITE A BIT ON THE HIGHWAYS



I TOOK UNNECESSARY CHANCES, BUT NOW WHEN I DRIVE, I'M EXTRA CAUTIOUS. I DON'T HAVE THE URGE TO SPEED

SO TAKE IT EASY WHEN YOU DRIVE THE LIFE YOU SAVE MIGHT BE MINE

SHORTLY AFTER SPEAKING THESE WORDS OF WISDOM, ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1955, DEAN JUMPED INTO HIS NEW PORSCHE 950 SPIDER AND HIT THE HIGHWAY AT 85 MPH

DO AS I SAY, KIDS. NOT AS I DO!



EN ROUTE TO THE SALINAS CAR RACES, DEAN WAS STOPPED FOR A SPEEDING CITATION, THEN SPEED ON AND... AT 5:50 PM, HE CRASHED INTO A FORD DRIVEN BY ONE DONALD TURNPSEED

THE 24-YEAR-OLD DEAN FULFILLED THE MANY PREMONITIONS OF EARLY DEATH HE HAD VOICED TO FRIENDS



NOT ONLY HAD DEAN
PREDICTED HIS DEATH
IN REAL LIFE, BUT IN
"KIDEL" WITHOUT A CAUSE
HE SPOKE THESE
IMMORTAL WORDS:

YOU KNOW SOMETHING...?
I NEVER FIGURED I'D LIVE
TO SEE **EIGHTEEN**



THERE
WAS A
SENSE OF
DOOM
TO JIMMY
SAID
ONE FRIEND
THE PUBLIC
AGREED



TWO OF HIS
THREE FILMS
WERE RELEASED
AFTER HE'D
GONE SOMEWHERE
EAST OF EDEN,
CREATING A POST-
HUMOUS SENSATION
HOLLYWOOD'S
BIGGEST STAR
WASN'T AVAILABLE
FOR INTERVIEWS.

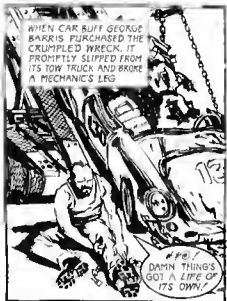


DEAN
INSPIRED
AN INSTANT
NECROLATRY
SOME FANS
TRIED TO
JOIN THEIR IDOL
BY SLEEPING ON
HIS GRAVE
OR EVEN
COMMITTING
SUICIDE

JAMES B. DEAN
1931-1955



MEANWHILE, THE VEHICLE OF HIS DEATH
(AND CELLOID MORTALITY) WAS
CARVING ITS OWN DOOM-LADEN LEGEND



WHEN CAR BUFF GEORGE
BARRIS PURCHASED THE
CRUMPLED WRECK, IT
PROMPTLY SLIPPED FROM
ITS TOW TRUCK AND BROKE
A MECHANIC'S LEG

WOW!
DAMN THINGS
GOT A LIFE OF
ITS OWN!



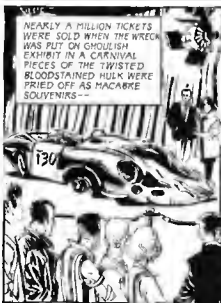
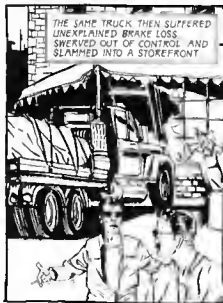
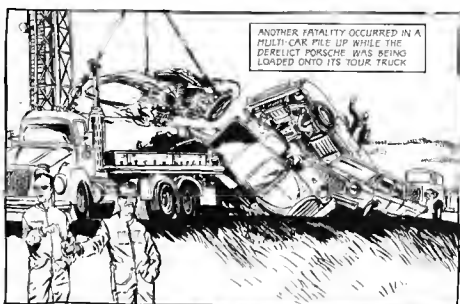
BARRIS THEN SOLD
THE PORSCHE'S ENGINE
TO AN AMATEUR RACER

WHO SPUN OUT OF CONTROL
AND NEARLY DIED



THE JINX CONTINUED WHEN
ANOTHER RACE CAR GOT
TWO OF THE PORSCHE'S TIRES

THIS DRIVER ACTUALLY DID DIE — WHEN
THE TIRES BLEW OUT SIMULTANEOUSLY





HOW IS WHERE YOU LIVE, UNLESS YOU'RE DEAD... IN WHICH CASE IT BECOMES A PLACE TO HAUNT.

A PRIME CANDIDATE FOR THE WEIRDEST HOME IN HISTORY IS THE "WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE," NEVER FINISHED BUT ETERNALLY HAUNTED BY--



BULLET GHOSTS

-- WHILE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WINCHESTER REPEATING RIFLE IN THE 1800S CAUSED A BULLET GHOST POPULATION EXPLOSION!



IF GHOSTS ARE SPIRITS TRAPPED ON EARTH BY TRAUMATIC DEATHS, NAMELY MURDER, THEN OUR TITLE CHARACTERS HAVE BEEN MULTIPLYING LIKE JACK-RABBITS EVER SINCE THE INVENTION OF THE GUN--

BEHOLD--
DEATH INCARNATE!

SCARY!



ALL THESE GHOSTS HAD TO HAUNT SOMEONE! SO WHY NOT THE WOOD OF THE RIFLE'S CREATOR?



WHOW!
THIS SURE IS A LOT OF BLOOD MONEY!

ENTER SARAH WINCHESTER, WHO INHERITED THE ENTIRE WINCHESTER REPEATING ARMS FORTUNE UPON THE DEATH OF HER HUSBAND WILLIAM IN 1894

SEEKING COMFORT, WILLIAM'S GRIEVING WIDOW ATTENDED A SEANCE AND WAS TOLD BY THE HELPFUL MEDIUM

THE SOULS OF THE VICTIMS KILLED BY YOUR HUSBAND'S RIFLES-- AND THERE ARE THOU SANDS OF THEM-- SEEK REVENGE

WH-WHAT...
WHAT SHOULD I DO?



ALREADY THE SPIRITS MATERIALIZED-- AND YOUR LIFE WILL BE CURSED UNLESS YOU BUY A HOUSE AND CONTINUE ENLARGING IT FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!

SOMEHOW THIS MADE SENSE TO SARAH



MAYBE SHE WAS ALREADY FEELING CRAMMED BY ECTOPLASTIC INVASION OF HER PRIVATE SPACE.

YOU THE
RIFLE
LADY?

GOOD--
JUST THE ONE
WE WUNNA
HAUNT!

Y-Y-YES...



SARAH WINCHESTER PROMPTLY PURCHASED A MODEST 8-ROOM FARMHOUSE IN SAN JOSE CALIFORNIA-- AND USED HER VAST WEALTH TO HIRE AN ARMY OF CARPENTERS.

GET TO WORK
BOYS-- ROUND-- THE
CLOCK SHIFTS, AND DON'T
STOP FOR A SECOND!



SARAH'S WHACKY MEDIUM, YOU SEE, HAD PROMISED SAFETY FROM THE SPIRITS ONLY SO LONG AS THE SOUND OF HAMMERING KILLED THE HOUSE.

WAK!
WAK!
WAK!
WAK!



THIS BEGAN 38 YEARS OF NONSTOP HOME IMPROVEMENT.

GREAT--
SHE IS
RENOVATING
THE HAUNT.

APPARENTLY THERE
WAS A DOUBLE
METHAD TO THE
MADNESS.



UNDERTAKEN WITH VIRTUALLY LIMITLESS FUNDS-- MANY OF THE NEW ROOMS WERE QUITE ELEGANT, DESIGNED TO APPEAL "HIGH-CLASS" SPIRITS.

CHARMED,
I'M SURE

3BELCH'S

-- BUT JUST AS MANY WERE
INTENDED TO CONFUSE AND
REFLECT EVIL, LOW-RENT
SPACERS



THIS DELIBERATELY BAD CONSTRUCTION (WHICH WOULD NEVER PASS TODAY'S BUILDING CODES) EVEN INCLUDED SUCH ARCHITECTURAL BOOBY-- TRAPS AS DOORS OPENING ON AIRSHIFTS.

HAH, LIKE
GRAVITY APPLIES
TO GHOSTS!



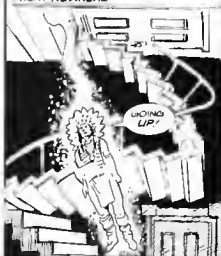
OTHER DOORS OPENED ONTO NOTHING BUT SOLID WALLS.



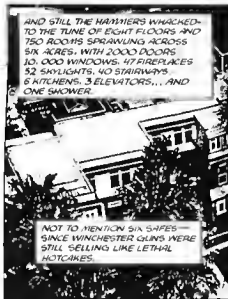
AND SINCE GHOSTS WERE SUPPOSEDLY ATTRACTED TO CUPBOARDS, SARAH FILLED HER INCREASINGLY BIZARRE HOUSE WITH 2000 OF THEM. ALL IN ANKWARD SHAPES AND MANY ONLY AN INCH DEEP.



WHILE SOME STAIRWAYS LED STRAIGHT TO A SOLID CEILING, OTHERS LITERALLY WENT NOWHERE.



AND STILL THE HAMMERS WHACKED TO THE TUNE OF EIGHT FLOCKS AND 750 ROOMS SPRAWLING ACROSS SIX ACRES, WITH 2000 DOORS, 10,000 WINDOWS, 47 FIREPLACES, 52 SKYLIGHTS, 40 STAIRWAYS, 6 KITCHENS, 3 ELEVATORS... AND ONE SHOWER.



NOT TO MENTION SIX SAFES — SINCE WINCHESTER GUNS WERE STILL SELLING LIKE LETHAL HOTCAKES.

AND SO IT WENT — WITH SARAH SPENDING MUCH OF THE FORTUNE EARNED BY GUN SALES IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO ELUDE THE GHOSTS CREATED BY THE GUNS' SOLD

IT BECAME A VICIOUS CIRCLE TWISTED INSIDE-OUT.



MORE GUN SALES.
MORE MONEY—

MORE GUNS. MORE MURDERS --



MORE MURDERS.
MORE GHOSTS --





MORE GHOSTS.
MORE GUILT—

YOU
SHOULD BE
ASHAMED,
RIFLE LADY.



ADD IT ALL UP—
SALES, MONEY, GUNS,
MURDERS, GHOSTS,
GUILT.

—AND IT EQUALS THE
LOONEST HAUNT EVER
BUILT, AND BUILT, AND
BUILT—



IMAGINE WINCHESTER MANSION AND ITS
PERPETUALLY IMPROVISED ADDITIONS THE
HOUSE THAT COULDN'T KEEP UP WITH ITS
OWN HAUNTING

THIS MUST BE THE
PLACE—OUR NEW HOME—
AND YOU SURE CAN'T MISS



AS SARAH SAW IT, EACH NEW ROOM
FILLED UP WITH SPIRITS EVEN AS IT
WAS COMPLETED

YOU'VE GOT TO BUILD
FASTER THAN THE GHOSTS
ARE CREATED

HEY, LADY—
GIVE ME A BREAK!



SO WHY DIDN'T SHE JUST MOVE—
OR BETTER YET STOP SELLING
GUNS?

(A CONUNDRUM! RIVALING BOB
DOLE'S VIEW THAT EVERYONE SHOULD
HAVE GUNS IN REAL LIFE, BUT DON'T
YOU DARE SHOW THEM IN THE MOVIES!)



THE PARADOX WAS
NOT RESOLVED UNTIL
1922, WHEN SARAH
WINCHESTER
FINALLY PASSED ON

ONLY THEN DID THE HALLMERS
FINALLY STOP POLINDING



DID ECTOPLASTIC SPOOKS LITERALLY
ROOM WINCHESTER HOUSE? PROBABLY
NOT, BUT WAS SARAH HAUNTED BY THE
SPIRITS OF THOSE GAIN BY HER
HUSBAND'S GUNS? DEFINITELY

AND IF YOU'RE EVER IN
SAN JOSE, TOURS OF THIS
HOME FOR RETIRED BULLET
GHOSTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE
BUT EVEN THE GUIDES
GET LOST

THANKS TO SUPERMARKET TABLOIDS AND TONIGHT SHOW MONOLOGUES, THE SPIRITS OF ELVIS AND MAKILYN ARE QUICKLY WEARING OUT THEIR EARTHLY WELCOMES



BUT WHAT ABOUT THE SUPERNATURAL MANIFESTATIONS OF OTHER STARS? HERE WITH A PEEK AT SOME LESSER-KNOWN--

ONE OF HOLLYWOOD'S EARLIEST LUMINARIES WAS SILENT SCREEN SWEET RUDOLPH VALENTINO WHOSE EVERY (SEEMINGLY CHARMED) CAREER MOVE WAS DICTATED BY HIS ANCIENT-EGYPT SPIRIT GUIDE "MESELOPE"



I'LL TELL YOU WHAT FILM TO DO NEXT...

WHEN THE "GREAT LOVEY" TOOK A WIFE, SHE WAS ALLEGED SPIRIT MEDIUM NATACHA RAMBOVA

TILL NOT EVEN DEATH DO US PART!



NATACHA CLAIMED THAT RUDY TOO POSSESSED "PSYCHIC POWERS"

VALENTINO'S SUDDEN DEATH IN NEW YORK CITY ON AUGUST 24, 1926 FROM A RUPTURED APPENDIX AND PERITONITIS SPARKED AN ALMOST SUPERNATURAL PANDEMONIUM AMONG SOME 80,000 SHOCKED AND GRIEVING FANS



(IT WAS A DISPLAY OF MASS HYSTERIA UNRIVALED UNTIL THE SIMILARLY PREMATURE DEATH OF STAR JAMES DEAN.)

INEVITABLY MEDIUM NATACHA CLAIMED THAT RUDY CONTACTED HER FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE

HE SAYS THERE IS NO DEATH AND NO SEPARATION—ONLY THE BEAUTY AND PERFECTION OF THE AFTERLIFE



THIS WAS, OF COURSE, HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS

LESS EASY TO DISMISS ARE THE MANY VISUAL ENCOUNTERS WITH VALENTINO'S SPIRIT IN AND AROUND FALCON'S LAIR HIS FORMER HOME IN THE HOLLYWOOD HILLS

BUT... YOU'RE DEAD!

AND LOVING IT!



ACTOR GLENN FORD'S GARDEN WAS PLEASANTLY HAUNTED BY THE REPLAYING OF A PARTY FROM HOLLYWOOD'S GOLDEN AGE FORD AND HIS WIFE HEARD LAUGHTER, THE TINKLING OF GLASSES, AND SMELLED VALENTINO'S UNMISTAKABLE PERFUME



THE EARTHY SASS OF OUTRAGEOUS SEX GODDESS MAE WEST WAS BELIED BY A DEEP AND LASTING INTEREST IN MORE SPIRITUAL MATTERS.

IS THAT A GUN IN YOUR POCKET OR ARE YA JUST HAPPY TO SEE ME?



AFTER WEST'S DEATH IN 1980, ACCORDING TO PSYCHIC CLARISSA BERNHARDT, THE FORMER STAR BECAME A MEMBER OF THE "CROSSOVER CLUB," A GROUP OF SPIRITS DEDICATED TO HELPING THE NEWLY DECEASED REACH THE OTHER SIDE.

THAT'S RIGHT, SUGAR—
COME ON UP AND
SEE ME.



APPARENTLY LESS BENIGN WAS ANOTHER BAD GIRL* OF HOLLYWOOD, THE NOTORIOUS EMBODIMENT OF THE WILD-PARTY FLAPPER—

WHADDA YA MEAN COLA? I WANNA DRINK!

JOAN CRAWFORD



CRAWFORD'S DAUGHTER (AND FUTURE BEST-SELLING AUTHOR) CHRISTINA CLAIMS THAT HER CHILDHOOD HOME WAS HAUNTED BY TRULY HORRIFYING ENTITIES.

NOW DARE YOU INTERRUPT ME?!

I'M FRIGHTENED MOMMY—
KEEP SEEING THINGS!



STOP CRYING, YOU WICKED CHILD!

IN A WEIRD DOUBLE WHAMMY, "MOMMIE DEAREST" MAY HAVE PUNISHED CHRISTINA FOR THE MISDEEDS OF THE VERY GHOSTS THAT WERE TERRIFYING HER



FURTHERMORE CHRISTINA'S PORTRAIT OF HER ABUSIVE MOTHER "THE LOOK ON HER FACE WHEN SHE TRIED TO KILL ME" IS CLEARLY THE DESCRIPTION OF A WOMAN POSSESSED

TO THIS DAY, PSYCHICS CLAIM THE CRAWFORD HOUSE IS "ASTRAL CENTRAL" FOR A HOST OF NEGATIVE SPIRITS. SUBSEQUENT OWNERS REPORT POLTERGEIST ACTIVITY, INCLUDING SPONTANEOUS FIRES ERUPTING FROM THE WALL AGAINST WHICH JOAN CRAWFORD'S HOT HEADBOARD ONCE BUMPED



MULTIPLE WITNESSES REPORT THAT THE FORMER HOME OF TWO OTHER STARS FROM HOLLYWOOD'S GLAMOROUS HEYDAY--

SHE'S BARBARA STANWYCK

AND HE'S ROBERT TAYLOR

—ALSO CONTINUES TO MANIFEST SIGNS OF GHOSTS

INVESTIGATING THE PHENOMENA-PLAGUED HOUSE, PARAPSYCHOLOGIST BARRY TAFF WAS TOLD THAT BOOKS JUST FLEW AROUND BY THEMSELVES



BUT THE 1976 INVESTIGATION ONLY MADE THINGS WORSE, CATALYZING A PSYCHIC STORM OF FLYING ICE TRAYS, SHOWER HEADS, PEPPER GOBLET, AND COINS

MOST IMPRESSIVE, THE NEW OWNER REPORTED, WAS THE FACT THAT HIS HOUSEBOY HAD JUST QUIT AFTER "CABBAGES CHASED HIM AROUND THE HOUSE"

YOU MAKE YOUR OWN COLE SLAW, BOSS!



SHORTLY AFTER PURCHASING YET ANOTHER HAUNTED HOUSE, DANCER KRESS FITZGERALD GAYNOR INSTALLED NEW CRYSTAL CHANDELIERS, WHICH WERE PROPERLY SENT CRASHING TO THE FLOOR BY THE DISAPPROVING GHOST OF "MRS WALKER" THE FORMER OWNER



ON THE OTHER HAND, GAYNOR SAYS, "MRS WALKER DOES LIKE CERTAIN CHANDELIERS—AND DUSTING THEM IS 'ONE CHORE THE MAIDS NEVER HAVE TO DO'."



YOU MIGHT SAY HOUSEKEEPING HERE IS A BREEZE.

LIKE MARILYN MONROE, JAYNE MANSFIELD FOUND HERSELF TRAPPED IN SHALLOW SEXBOOM ROLLS. FRIENDS SAY SHE WAS WILLING TO TRY ANYTHING TO CHANGE THE COURSE OF HER CAREER



ENTER ANTON LA VAY, HIGH PRIEST OF THE CHURCH OF SATAN AND AN EQUALLY VIVID CELEBRITY OF THE DAY



THE STARKLET AND HER LOVER SAM BRODY VISITED LAVEY IN NOVEMBER, 1966 WHEN MANSFIELD ALLEGEDLY SOLICITED HELP FROM THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS



BUT BRODY OFFENDED LAVEY BY FONDLING A "HOLY" STATUE OF A NUDE WOMAN



WHEN LAVEY ORDERED HIM TO STOP BRODY BLEW OUT SEVERAL OF THE BLACK CANDLES SURROUNDING THE STATUE

ACCORDING TO MANSFIELD'S FRIEND MAY 'MANN' LAVEY SAID BRODY HAD INSULTED SATAN AND WOULD DIE WITHIN THE YEAR. AS WOULD MANSFIELD IF SHE DID NOT END HER RELATIONSHIP WITH BRODY



THE PAIR LAUGHED OFF THE 'CURSE' UNTIL MANSFIELD'S NEW SPORTS CAR (A GIFT FROM BRODY) WAS TOTALED. THE LOVERS WERE LUCKY TO SURVIVE THE CRASH

AS IF THAT WEREN'T ENOUGH, MANSFIELD'S 5-YEAR-OLD SON TOLTAN WAS THEN MAULED BY A 'TAME' LION AS SHE POSED FOR PUBLICITY PHOTOS



ALTHOUGH HER SON SURVIVED EMERGENCY SURGERIES, MANSFIELD INDEED FELT 'CURSED' AS SHE FOUND HERSELF AT THE EYE OF WHIRLING MISFORTUNE



IN RAPID SUCCESSION SHE ENDURED ACCUSATIONS OF ABUSE LODGED BY HER DAUGHTER JAYNE MARIE, CHARGES OF TAX EVASION, BAD PUBLICITY FROM THE FALSE CHARGE OF AN UNPAID HOTEL BILL, THE THEFT OF HER PRECIOUS DIAMONDS, AND MORE

ALL OF WHICH CULMINATED WHEN SHE WAS MOBBED IN RIO DE JANEIRO, STRIPPED TO THE WAIST, AND NEARLY TORN TO PIECES BY HER 'FANS'



AS FOR BRODY, HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO MEET MANSFIELD WHEN HE BROKE HIS LEG AND SEVERAL RIBS IN ANOTHER CAR WRECK.



ONE WEEK LATER — ON JUNE 29, 1967, LESS THAN A YEAR AFTER HE HAD INSULTED SATAN — BRODY WAS WELL ENOUGH TO DRIVE AGAIN.



HE SLAMMED INTO A PARKED TRUCK, KILLING HIMSELF INSTANTLY, SHEARING THE ROOF OFF HIS CAR AND DECAPITATING JAYNE MANSFIELD.

HER THREE CHILDREN IN THE BACK SEAT MIRACULOUSLY SURVIVED.

WHILE INVESTIGATING THE ACCIDENT, PRIVATE DETECTIVE MILO SPEKGLIO FOUND THAT "JUST BEFORE MANSFIELD'S DEATH, LA VEE HAD ACCIDENTALLY CUT THE HEAD OFF A PICTURE OF THE ACTRESS".



SINGER ENGBERT HUMPERDINCK BOUGHT MANSFIELD'S "PINK PALACE" HOME, WHERE HE CLAIMS HE HAS SEEN THE GHOST OF ITS FORMER OWNER.



"I WAS ABOUT TO SAY 'HELLO, JAYNE' WHEN I REALIZED SHE WAS DEAD. I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING THEN SHE FADED OUT."

ANOTHER HOLLYWOOD HAUNTING BEGAN WHEN 1930s SEX SYMBOL JEAN HARLOW MARRIED PRODUCER PAUL BERN, A MAN TWICE HER AGE.



TWO MONTHS LATER, BERN WAS FOUND DEAD IN THEIR BEDROOM. HIS ALLEGED SUICIDE NOTE, SUPPOSEDLY REFERRED TO "SEXUAL VIOLENCE" RESULTING FROM IMPOTENCE, ALTHOUGH SOME FEEL THIS WAS CONCOCTED AFTER HIS MURDER.



THIRTY-FOUR YEARS LATER, THE BERN HOUSE BELONGED TO HAIRDRESSER JAY SEBRING, WHOSE LOVER, SHARON TATE, WAS DISTURBED ONE NIGHT BY STRANGE NOISES AND A "FUNNY FEELING."



TURNING ON A LAMP, SHE WAS TERRIFIED TO SEE A GHOST: "I SAW THIS CREEPY LITTLE MAN. HE LOOKED LIKE PAUL BERN."

TATE FLED THE BEDROOM AND RUSHED DOWN THE STAIRS INTO EVEN GREATER HORROR — ANOTHER SPECTRAL FIGURE, THIS ONE TIED TO THE STAIRCASE AND GUSHING BLOOD FROM ITS SLASHED THROAT.



WHILE SHE COULD NOT IDENTIFY THE HOODED FIGURE, TATE SOMEHOW 'KNEW' WITH COLD DREAD THAT IT WAS EITHER HERSELF OR HER LOVER JAY SEBRING.

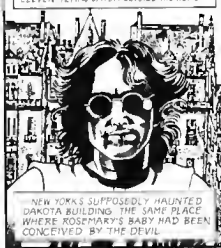
EVEN AFTER BECOMING PREGNANT, SOME SOURCES SAY, TATE CONTINUED EXPERIMENTS WITH DRUGS, 'BLACK MAGIC,' AND 'KINKY SEX.' AND, ON THE NIGHT OF AUGUST 9-10, 1969, WITH HUSBAND POLANSKI OUT OF THE COUNTRY, SHARON TATE WAS RITUALY SLAUGHTERED (ALONG WITH FORMER LOVER JAY SEBRING) BY FOLLOWERS OF REAL-LIFE SATANIST CHARLES MANSON.



TWO YEARS LATER, SHARON TATE CHANGED HOUSES WHEN SHE MARRIED ROMAN POLANSKI, WHO HAD JUST MADE THE 'BLACK MAGIC AND DEMONISM' MOVIE 'ROSEMARY'S BABY.'



JOHN LENNON, WHOSE FATALITY MISCONSTRUED MUSIC 'INSPIRED' THE MANSON FAMILY'S BLOOD ORGIES, WAS MURDERED ELEVEN YEARS LATER OUTSIDE HIS HOME.



NEW YORK'S SUPPOSEDLY HAUNTED DAKOTA BUILDING, THE SAME PLACE WHERE 'ROSEMARY'S BABY' HAD BEEN CONCEIVED BY THE DEVIL.

A 'CURSE' ATTACHED TO THE MOVIE 'POLTERGEIST' IS SAID TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF SEVERAL PRINCIPAL ACTORS, INCLUDING YOUNG HEATHER O'ROURKE—

THEY'RE
HE-ERE!



WHILE THE SAME FILM NEARLY KILLED NOMINAL DIRECTOR TOBE HOOPER'S CAREER.

AFTER RUMORS CLAIMED THE REAL DIRECTOR WAS STEVEN SPIELBERG RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ALIEN EPIC 'THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL' (SET AT THE WITCHES' SABBATH OF HALLLOWEEN) AND WHO HAS THIS TO SAY:

I'VE NEVER SEEN A UFO, BUT GHOSTS THAT'S ANOTHER STORY.



ENTERING TAYNE MANEY
LYWOOD HAUNTERS



AND ONLY
ONE OF MANY
AS WE'VE SEEN
IN HAUNTED
HOLLYWOOD.

STILL ABLE TO APPRECIATE
ABSURDITY? STILL FEEL THAT
IF SOMEONE UP THERE IS
PULLING THE STRINGS, THAT
HE (OR SHE) IS A FEW BRICKS
SHORT OF A LOAD? GOOD.
BECAUSE---

THE COSMIC TRICKSTER GIGGLES AGAIN

THIS HAITIAN TEMPLE WOODOO ALTAR IS
ADORNED WITH SHIBBOLETS FROM CHRISTIANITY,
JUDAISM, VARIOUS "ALL-SEEING EYE" CULTS,
AND EVEN FREEMASONRY. ARE THEY ALL
IN CAMMOOTS?

IT IS A
CONSPIRACY.

THIS THIRTY-TON OBJECT WHICH WASHED
UP ON A BRITISH BEACH WAS NEVER
IDENTIFIED OR REPORTED MISSING.

NOT EXACTLY SOMETHING
YOU'D LOSE AND
FORGET...

SOMEONE
GOT SCREWED
BIG TIME!

IN AN AREA OF WYOMING WHERE
SHOSHONE AND CROW INDIANS ONCE
TOLD LEGENDS OF TINY PEOPLE, THIS
BIZARRE MUMMY WAS FOUND SEATED
ON A CAVE LEDGE.

IT IS 34 INCHES TALL.

ON FEBRUARY 9, 1865, PEOPLE IN
ENGLAND AWOKE TO FIND THE EVENLY
SPACED TRACKS OF A "HOOVED BIRD"
ACROSS FIELDS AND OVER ROOFS
AND HIGH WALLS--IN ALL, THE TRACKS
SPANNED OVER A HUNDRED MILES!

THESE MYSTERIOUS AERIAL OBJECTS
ABOVE A CATTLE MUTILATION SITE WERE
INVISIBLE TO THE NAKED EYE, APPEARING
ONLY IN DEVELOPED PHOTOGRAPHS.

ONE IS TEMPTED TO DRAW A
LINK WITH SIMILAR PHENOMENA
ABOVE ENGLAND'S CROP CIRCLES--
AND AS A MATTER OF FACT, **THOSE**
HAVE BEEN SEEN AS WELL AS
PHOTOGRAPHED.

KISS THE
♥
COOK

Afterword

AND THERE YOU HAVE IT, WHATEVER 'IT' MAY BE — THE BIZARRE, THE UNEXPLAINED, PARANORMAL PHENOMENA, THE SUPERNATURAL — CALL IT WHAT YOU WILL, IT WILL NEVER BE TRULY NAMED.

AND SINCE EVERY TWIST AND TURN OF ITS KALEIDOSCOPIC MAZE HAS BEEN MARKED BY THE COSMIC TRICKSTER, EVEN AT THE END WE REMAIN LOST.

IN ANY CASE, I TRUST YOU'VE ENJOYED THIS SERIES OF SIGHTS NOT SEEN BY EVERY EYE, AS WELL AS A TANTALIZING WHIFF OF THE UTTERLY STRANGE—

—A WILD KIDNAP FIT FOR NEITHER THE FAINT OF HEART NOR THE HARDENED OF MIND

WE'VE CONFRONTED PHANTOMS AND ALIENS, MONSTERS AND ANGELS, POLTERGEISTS AND PREMONITIONS, UFOS AND UNKNOWN ANIMALS, COMMUNICATING CROPS AND SINISTER SYNCHRONICITIES—

—AN ENTIRE HOST OF MORE THINGS THAN ARE DREAMT OF IN ANY PHILOSOPHY.

LONG AFTER SHAKESPEARE, ALDOUS HUXLEY CONCURRED WITH THE BARD'S SENTIMENT 'WE HAVE LEARNT THAT NOTHING IS SIMPLE AND RATIONAL, THAT SCIENCE 'EXPLAINS' NOTHING—

—THAT THE MORE WE KNOW, THE MORE FANTASTIC THE WORLD BECOMES AND THE PROFOUNDER THE SURROUNDING DARKNESS.

I CAN ONLY ADD THAT A MIND ONCE EXPANDED NEVER CONTRACTS

AND I CAN ONLY HOPE THAT YOUR NEURONS, NOW SPARKED BY NEW LIGHT, WILL NEVER BE SMALL AGAIN...

WRITERS

DOUG MOENCH

Doug Moench has been obsessed with his own unexplained past ever since he was abducted from a hillside of Scottish heather at the age of 7 and again in the north woods of Manitoba at the age of 12. Orange globes seem to dog him, and a Bigfoot apparition recently invaded his Pennsylvania home (although he has yet to spot the Loch Ness monster).

ARTISTS

BILL ALGER

Former child televangelist and current liquor-soused vagrant, Bill Alger draws kids' comics for a childless society. (Page 98)

BRENT ANDERSON

June 1955. Born. Grew. Read. Drew. Wrote. Drew more. Read comics. UFO abductee. Wrote and drew comics. Hypnosis successful. 1976. Professional. Waiting. 1994. Married. 1995. Kid. Tired. 'Bye. (Page 55)

SERGIO ARAGONÉS

Sergio is the creator of the award-winning comic *Groo*. His comics and illustrations have appeared in *MAD* and in numerous other comics over the years. (Page 36)

HILARY BARTA

Hilary lives with his husband Joe Staton — wait, that isn't right... (Page 167)

DONALD DAVID

While working on pages for this book, Donald was abducted by a Venusian Love Goddess. She offered to take him to her Love Planet, but Donald had to refuse because he had a Paradox Press assignment to finish. Now that's dedication! (Page 68)

DAVE DEVRIES

Dave is not too well.

He wears his shorts until they smell.
He eats fried beans and stirs the air
To suffocate bugs that live in his hair,
AAAAARRRRGH!
(Page 163)

D'ISRAELI D'EMOND DRAUGHTSMAN

D'Israeli still lives in Sheffield with his mummy, but his nice kitty has fled. Perhaps that business with the bulldog clips was too much for him. (Page 8)

RANDY DUBURKE

Randy's work for DC Comics includes covers of *Animal Man*, *The Darkstars*, *Ms. Tree*, and *The Shadow*. He drew the story "Tunnel Rats" for the DC/Vertigo anthology *Weird War Tales*, as well as *Hunter's Heart*, a graphic novel in the Paradox Mystery line. (Page 42)

HUNT EMERSON

Hunt Emerson lurks 100 feet in the air, in sight of the New Hindu Temple on Soho Road. At night, the dome is lit from below in blue light. (Page 84)

JIM FERN

Jim started as an inker on various Marvel titles in 1983. He began pencilling in 1987, and has drawn *I.E.G.I.O.N. '90*, *Detective Comics*, *Adventures of Superman*, and the *Scarlett* series for DC. (Page 146)

GARY FIELDS

Gary turned to cartooning after an unsuccessful attempt at becoming an Olympic volleyball player. He lives with his wife, Cindy, and two children, Aimee and Max. (Page 28)

BOB FINGERMAN

When Bob isn't drawing weird stuff for Paradox, he's illustrating his comic *Minimum Wage* from Fantagraphics. So just go buy it. (Page 122)

RICK GEARY

Rick's illustrations appear occasionally in *MAD*. He continues to write and illustrate a series of children's books featuring "The Mask" for Dark Horse Comics. His next graphic novel is *The Borden Tragedy* for NBM. (Page 147)

PAUL GUINAN

Once a cynical, bitter, raging punk, Paul now lives with his wife in a quiet house with a picket fence. He blames their dog's secret brain ray for the turnaround. (Page 50)

PAUL GULACY

Gulacy is well known for getting Helfer's butt out of the sling in crunch-time situations. (Page 76)

FRED HARPER

Animal Man, for DC/Vertigo, *Marvel Comics Presents*, *Ghost Rider*, and *Dr. Strange* for Marvel, *Culture Clash* and *Lady Justice* for Big Entertainment, and *The Big Book of Little Criminals* for Paradox Press. (Page 171)

RUSS HEATH

Russ's career includes work for Harvey Kurtzman's *MAD*, *Blazing Combat*, *Notional Lampoon*, and long stints on *Sgt. Rock* and other DC war comics. Recent work: *The Punisher and Legends of the Dark Knight*. (Page 70)

GRAHAM HIGGINS

Graham began drawing comics for Birmingham Arts Lab Press in the mid-'70s under the name "Pokkettz." His work has appeared in almost every Big Book in the series. He is a very fine fellow and has never been abducted by aliens. (Page 102)

RAFAEL KAYANAN

Currently pencilling *Turlok* for Acclaim Comics, an *X-Files* adaptation for Topps, and the *Turlok* game manual for the Nintendo Playstation. (Page 134)

STEVEN LIEBER

Steven pronounces his surname LEE-burr, not LYE-burr. He's worked on *Hawkman*, *Lady Justice*, *Detective Comics*, *Dark Horse Presents*, *Roadways*, and a three-part *Grendel Tales* story arc due out in '97. (Page 19)

STEVE LEIALOHA

Steve has been in the comics biz long enough to draw many stories in the Big Book series as well as the DC Comics time-travel series *Chronos*. He is a faithful subscriber to the *Fanteen Times*. (Page 154)

GRAHAM MANLEY

Graham is believed to be in hiding from the police somewhere in Scotland. He is wanted for crimes against the comic strip form. (Page 176)

STEVE MANNION

Steve says he has no idea what is going on. (Page 58)

TED NAIFEN

Ted is most noted for *The Machine* from Dark Horse's super-hero line. (Page 168)

JOE ORLANO

Joe edited all those great DC comics in the '60s and '70s that didn't have super-people in them, like *Angel* and *The Ape*, and the original *House of Secrets*. He recently retired after being a big VP and Creative Director. And you thought his only asset was his good looks. (Page 53)

TAYYAR OZKAN

Tayyar has drawn *Bushwhacked*, *Pet*, and *Cave Bang* for Elos, as well as inking the "Weird Romance" story arc for *The Dreaming*. His book *Cowman: Evolution Heck* recently came out from NBM. He also drew *La Pacifica*, written by Joel Rose and Amos Poe, the first graphic novel in the Paradox Mystery line. (Page 159)

JEFF PARKER

Parker loves to draw thugs, but is most happy writing and drawing his own adventure comic *Great Divide*. (Page 21)

RICK PARKER

Rick drew *MTV's Beavis and Butt-head* for Marvel, and many Big Book stories for Paradox. He is, as those who know him will attest, both unexplained and inexplicable. (Page 82)

JOE PHILLIPS

In his ten years in comics Jeff has drawn *Ex-Mutants*, *Speed Race*, *Justice League*, *Fantastic Four*, *Spider-Man*, and many others. He recently did *The Heretic*, which was published by Dark Horse. (Page 136)

GORDON PURCELL

Gordon is inexplicably entering his tenth year as a comics artist. He has worked on three *Star Trek* titles, *Flash*, *Silver Sable*, and currently *The X-Files*. Why he spends January in Minnesota with his wife and child is truly unexplained. (Page 182)

JOE SACCO

Joe is the author of *Palestine*, which won a 1995 American Book Award and is published by Fantagraphics. Currently, he is working on a series of stories about his experiences in Bosnia. (Page 111)

ERIC SHANOWER

Eric's current comics work can be seen in *Weird War Tales*, *Harlan Ellison's Dream Corridor*, and *Dz-Story*. He is working on a major comics project involving the most beautiful woman in the world. (Page 5 and 183)

TED SLAMPYAK

Ted created, wrote, and drew *Jazz Age Chronicles* for Caliber Press, pencilled *Neil Gaiman's Mr. Hero* for Big Entertainment, and *Roadways* for Cult Press. He lives in Bristol, Pennsylvania with poet/writer Rachel Astarie Piccione. (Page 30)

ROBIN SMITH

Robin was the art director for *2000 AD*, and an artist on *Judge Dredd*. He is the illustrator of the recently released *Green Condies* and forthcoming book *The Bagie Man*, two graphic novels in the Paradox Graphic Mystery line. (Page 15)

STEVE SMITH

Steve has been using the alphabet for many years. Other examples of his penmanship and pictures may be found in *Negative Burn*, *Aesop's Desecrated Fables*, and along the 101 freeway. (Page 162)

JOE STATON

Joe has worked for Marvel on *The Incredible Hulk*, and for DC, illustrating *Superman*, *Batman*, *Plastic Man*, *Green Lantern*, and many others. Joe illustrated *Family Man*, a graphic novel in the Paradox Mystery line written by Jerome Chaiyn. (Page 124)

TOM SUTTON

Sutton should get more money than the other artists. He uses three times as much ink. Is India Ink made from real Indians? It's getting darker. (Page 172)

WARD SUTTON

Ward is: a syndicated cartoonist (*Ward's Cleavage*, *Schlock 'N' Roll*), a comic book author (*Ink Blot*), a rock poster artist (for Pearl Jam and Beck) and a freelance illustrator (*Rolling Stone*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and others). (Page 40)

S.M. TAGGART

Girded against the coming apocalypse, Mr. Taggart asks that you all knock before entering his bunker as this would allow him time to load his rifle. (Page 128)

ANDREW WENDEL

Andrew was a portrait artist for *The New Yorker* and is fueled by passions for music, cycling, and the bizarre. His work has also appeared in three Paradox Big Books: *Urban Legends*, *Death*, and *Conspiracies*. (Page 94)

J.H. WILLIAMS III

Penciler J.H. Williams III was born in Roswell, New Mexico and has been known to see little green men on occasion. However, his extraterrestrial inker Mick Gray isn't sure if these are actually close encounters of the drunken kind. (Page 63)

GAHAN WILSON

Gahan's cartoons have appeared in *Playboy*, *The New Yorker*, *Gourmet*, *Punch*, *Paris Match*, and many others. He has had sixteen collections of his cartoons published. He is also the author of *The Big Book of Freaks from Paradox Press*. (Page 87)

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